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GENERAL STUDIES (TEST CODE : 1067)

Name of Candidate	Nihal Randhawa		
Medium Eng./Hindi	English	Registration Number	58233
Center	NA	Date	7-Sep-2018

INDEX TABLE

Q. No.	Maximum Marks	Marks Obtained
1	10	
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3	10	
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18	15	
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20	15	

Total Marks Obtained:

Remarks:

INSTRUCTIONS

1. Do furnish the appropriate details in the answer sheet (viz. Name, Registration Number and Test Code).
   उत्तर पुस्तिका में सूचनाएं भरना आवश्यक है (नाम, प्रश्न-पत्र कोड, विद्यार्थी क्रमांक आदि)।
2. There are **TWENTY** questions printed in **ENGLISH & HINDI**
   bl ea chl i/u gS vaxzsth vkSj fgUnh ea Nis gSa
3. **All questions are compulsory.**
   lHkh i/u vfuok;Z gSa
4. The number of marks carried by a question/part is indicated against it.
   izR;sd i/u ;k Hkkx ds vad mlds lkeus fn, x, gSa
5. Answers must be written in the medium authorized in the Admission Certificate, which must be stated clearly on the cover of this Question-Cum-Answer (QCA) Booklet in the space provided. No marks will be given for answers written in medium other that the authorized one.
   प्रश्नों के उत्तर उसी माध्यम में लिखे जाने चाहिए, जिसका उल्लेख आपके प्रवेश पत्र में किया गया है और उस माध्यम का स्पष्ट उल्लेख प्रश्न-सह-उत्तर (क्यूसीए) पुस्तिका के मुख्य पृष्ठ पर अंकित निर्दिष्ट स्थान पर किया जाना चाहिए। उल्लिखित माध्यम के अतिरिक्त अन्य किसी माध्यम में लिए गए उत्तर पर कोई अंक ugha fey ldrs gSa
6. Word limit in questions, if specified, should be adhered to.
   प्रश्नों में शब्द सीमा, जहाँ विनिर्दिष्ट है, का अनुसरण किया जाना pkfg,A
7. Any page or portion of the page left blank in the Question-Cum-Answer Booklet must be clearly struck off.
   उत्तर iqfLrdk ea [kkyh NksM+s gq, i`"B ;k mlds vafar ds Hkkx dks Li"V :i ls dkVk tkuk pkfg,A

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EVALUATION INDICATORS

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All the Best

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1. What is the role that opposition plays in a democracy like India? In this context, discuss whether our Parliament can benefit from a shadow cabinet. **(150 words)** 10

भारत जैसे लोकतंत्र में विपक्ष क्या भूमिका निभाता है? इस संदर्भ में, चर्चा कीजिए कि क्या हमारी संसद छाया मंत्रिमंडल (शैडो कैबिनेट) से लाभान्वित हो सकती है।

India has a parliamentary style democracy in which people vote for their representatives to the legislature and the party or coalition with greater than 50% seats forms the govt. and the others are in the opposition

The opposition has following roles :-

- Supervision and Scrutiny of the Executive by the legislature. Debates on bills, debates on the budget, ~~con~~ standing committees, motions like Adjournment motion, no confidence motion, censure motion etc.
  Opposition plays a key role in keeping the government in check.
- Many independent appointments like CVC members or Lokpal are done by involving Leader of Opposition

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- Opposition use media and other pressure tactics to influence public interest.
- They ensure minority interests are represented
- They provide a viable alternative to voters in the next election and can even be an alternate form of govt. in case of a successful no confidence motion.

A Shadow Cabinet is a concept in UK where the opposition assign their own members to an unofficial position mirroring those of the political executive i.e. the Cabinet. They devise their own policies and challenge the govt. actions from an informed position.

The benefits are :-

- Informed debate on govt. actions.
- Experience gained by the shadow members.
- Provides an alternative to the voters and alternative policies to be considered.
- Helps voters evaluate the work of opposition and ministers more comprehensively.

The idea is a good one yet in India where there are multiple parties assigning an official opposition would be tricky.

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2. Where there is a right, there is a remedy. In this context, discuss the nature and significance of writs in India with adequate examples. **(150 words) 10**

जहाँ अधिकार है, वहाँ उपचार भी है। इस संदर्भ में, यथोचित उदाहरणों के साथ भारत में रिटों की प्रकृति और महत्व की चर्चा कीजिए।

Rights are claims of citizens against the state and its that ~~vein~~ as Dr Ambedkar argued Art. 32, Right to Constitutional Remedies is the heart and soul of the Constitution.

The writs given to the higher judiciary are 5:-

- Habeas Corpus: Literally 'Bring me the body', writ against illegal detention. Applicable against public and private parties.
- Certiorari: Literally 'To certify'. Issued against subordinate courts who have overstepped their bounds. Court can censure them and transfer case to apt judiciary.
- Prohibition: Issued by the court prohibiting the authority if it has no locus standi to decide the case. It is a writ of a preventive nature.
- Mandamus: Literally 'We Command' to issued to a subordinate court, authority or public official commanding him to

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carry out an act which is his duty to do so.

- Quo Warranto : Literally, 'By whose warrant', questions the appointment of a person to a public position they are unqualified for.

Significance of Writs

- Powers given to SC and HC under Art 32 and 226 respectively. SC can only use these when FR are being violated and has to use them whereas HC is conditional and can use for FR and legal rights violations.
- They give teeth and meaning to Part III of the Constitution and are crucial to FR's.
- They are checks against abuse by both executive and legislature.

The writs keep a check on the authority of state and ensure that the govt. remains within the bound of the law.

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3. Enumerate the objectives of NITI Aayog. Also, discuss the performance of this body since its inception and suggest measures to make it more effective. **(150 words)** **10**

NITI आयोग के उद्देश्यों को सूचीबद्ध कीजिए। साथ ही, इसकी स्थापना के बाद से इस निकाय के प्रदर्शन की चर्चा कीजिए एवं इसे और अधिक प्रभावी बनाने के उपाय सुझाइये।

NITI Aayog is a govt. think tank est. in 2015, tasked with replacing the earlier top down led development approach characterised by the 5 years' Plans and the Planning Commission (which was simultaneously abolished).

Objectives

- To develop a shared vision between centre and states. Foster Cooperative Federalism.
- To develop credible plans at the village level and aggregate these progressively to higher levels.
- To maintain a repository for knowledge, innovation and entrepreneurial support through a collaborative community of national and international partners.
- To pay attention to those in society not equitably benefitting from economic progress

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- To design strategic and long term policy frameworks and monitor those.

Performance of NITI Aayog

- Cooperative Federalism has been enhanced. State govt. are members of the board and it has expedited dialogues and grievance redressal mechanism.
- Competitive Federalism. Various indices like Health and Education rank states on performance. This fosters healthy competition.
- Human Development. 115 worst off districts have been selected and measures to improve are underway on a mission basis.

Shortcomings

People's Participation has not been there.

It needs to take expert help from sector specific experts instead of a generalist approach. Niti Aayog also needs to bring in capacity building.

If implemented properly, Niti Aayog can metamorphise into an institution which is the key driver of India's growth.

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4. In view of the political class's inability to develop and maintain conventions relating to the appropriate use of Article 356, the Supreme Court's decision in the Bommai case provided much needed clarity. Comment. (150 words) 10

अनुच्छेद 356 के उचित उपयोग से संबंधित परिपाटी विकसित करने और उसे बनाए रखने में राजनीतिक वर्ग की अक्षमता को देखते हुए, सर्वोच्च न्यायालय द्वारा बोम्मई वाद में दिए गए निर्णय ने अत्यावश्यक स्पष्टता प्रदान की है। टिप्पणी कीजिए।

Art.356 confers upon the President the power to remove a State government and to either directly take over the functioning of the State himself or delegate it to an agent. He does this when a Governor writes a report telling him about the breakdown of Constitutional Machinery in that state.

In the Constituent Assembly, Dr Ambedkar had hoped that this article would 'remain a dead letter' and never be used, yet it has been invoked over a 100 times often for political rather than legitimate reasons. Some of the frivolous reasons were loss of faith by public, removal of govt. without floor test etc.

The Supreme Court in SR Bommai Case

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laid down guidelines to prevent arbitrary removal. These were :-

- The President can only suspend the assembly. Removal occurs when within 1 month both LS and RS approve of the imposition of President's Rule.
- Presidential proclamation is subject to Judicial Review and can be overturned if reasons not found relevant.
- The question of state govt. losing legitimacy should be decided by floor test.
- The Court can restore ~~a~~ state govt.
- If a party ruling at State does not get votes in LS elections (Like Janata Dal case) then they can't be dismissed for loss of confidence at the state level.

This judgement has helped preserve India's Federal nature and led to the deepening of democracy. In conjunction with rise of coalition and regional parties it has largely curtailed the use of Art 365, only for legitimate reasons. now used

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5. Press freedom and good governance are not mutually exclusive. They support each other while promoting a country's economic and human development. Comment. **(150 words)** 10

प्रेस की स्वतंत्रता और सुशासन परस्पर अपवर्जी नहीं हैं। देश के आर्थिक और मानव विकास को प्रोत्साहित करते हुए ये एक-दूसरे को समर्थन प्रदान करते हैं। टिप्पणी कीजिए।

The Press is one of the 4 pillars holding up a democratic country. Good Governance entails Rule of Law; Transparency; Accountability etc. A free press ensures good governance by :-

- Citizen Empowerment - Press releases information. Openness and Transparency are promoted. A free press is impartial, objective and reliable which educates the citizens who can in turn hold govt. accountable.
- Accountability - Press informs about govt. actions and inaction. The citizens expectations are in turn also assessed promoting accountability.
- Transparency - Press with freedom reports about shortcomings of govt. Also informs people about their rights and entitlements. Whistleblowers are also encouraged
- Rule of Law - Promotes adherence to RoL. Promotes openness of court proceedings, legislative deliberations and administrative decisions. Exposes wrongdoing also.

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Freedoms of Press – While promoting good governance, in turn good governance promotes freedom of press. Causing a virtuous cycle to form.

This cycle has many benefits like Human Rights Strengthening; Reduction in Poverty; Curbing Corruption; Inclusive Economic Growth; Reducing Crimes; Increasing Efficacy of Govt. Schemes etc. causing promotion of economic and human rights development

Independent and Free Media are like sunlight, disinfecting all the diseased parts of the system. This is reinforced by global norms where countries with a high score in Human Development Index have a high score in Press Freedom Index and vice versa for those with a low score on both.

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6. SHGs have succeeded in delivering financial inclusion, but for them to evolve as viable business enterprise requires a different approach. Analyse in the context of the twin goals of rural growth and promotion of women's entrepreneurship. **(150 words)** 10

SHGs ने वित्तीय समावेशन प्रदान करने में सफलता प्राप्त की है, लेकिन उनके लिए व्यवहार्य व्यापार उद्यम के रूप में विकसित होने के लिए एक भिन्न दृष्टिकोण की आवश्यकता है। ग्रामीण विकास और महिला उद्यमिता के संवर्द्धन के जुड़वाँ लक्ष्यों के संदर्भ में विश्लेषण कीजिए।

Self Help Groups (SHG's) have been a huge success in India. They have transformed the lives of millions of their members esp. given the fact that most members are rural women

Successes

- Their biggest success is in the field of providing intitutional credit to members. SHG Bank Linkages are promoted by NABARD and they have reported great success in promoting rural and women entrepreneurship by facilitation of loans, investments and technical help.
- These loans are often collateral free at normal interest rates, breaking the stranglehold of informal credit at exorbitant rates offered by moneylenders
- SHG's have also promoted micro and small enterprises. Kudumbashree in Kerala being best eg.
- They have graduated to providing full financial inclusion, savings, deposits, credit and other financial instruments.

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However, to promote twin goals of women entrepreneurship and rural growth, some changes should be made:

- SHG's should promote capacity building of members by conducting workshops or programmes on skill
- Skill development by tying up with Govt. initiatives like Skill India.
- Providing Conducive Atmosphere by promoting economies of scale. Tying up and aggregating multiple similar initiatives and providing cheap raw material, credit, and access to markets.
- Exploring avenues for finance from private investors to govt. schemes.
- Fostering a close relationship with SRLM's

Thus, a policy change by govt. educating SHG's and members via either personal interaction or media intervention on their potential is required. Successful examples should be publicised so that both complementary goals of women entrepreneurship promotion and rural growth occur simultaneously.

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7. The focus of higher education in India has been on a select few Central or autonomous institutions where as the ones in states remain neglected. Commenting on the statement, highlight the significance of Rashtriya Uchchatar Shiksha Abhiyan (RUSA) in this context. **(150 words) 10**

भारत में उच्च शिक्षा का ध्यान कुछ चुनिंदा केंद्रीय या स्वायत्त संस्थानों पर केंद्रित रहा है, जबकि राज्यों में स्थित संस्थान उपेक्षित रहे हैं। इस कथन पर टिप्पणी करते हुए, इस संदर्भ में राष्ट्रीय उच्चतर शिक्षा अभियान (RUSA) के महत्व पर प्रकाश डालिए।

In India there are around 800 universities providing higher education of which around 370 are under their respective State govt. However around 74% of students study in these state universities. Yet it has been observed that ~~around 50% of and~~ the major focus of funding and assistance is on central universities and even there 50% on the selected IIT's and IIM's with 50% left for the rest.

Higher education is a low priority for State govt. and this contributes to the pathetic state of higher education in India where no University reaches top 100 in global institute rankings.

To address these shortcomings, the MHRD launched RUSA. This plan is about conditional release of funds to state

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Governments and then to state unis based on reforms in learning teaching outcomes, governance, infrastructure support etc.

Significance

- Conditional funding will prove efficacious in proper utilisation of funds.
- To improve learning teaching outcomes then will be focus on improving pedagogy; transparent selection of teachers; implementing a review system; regular appraisals etc.
- A performance review by IIT Bombay showed that after implementation of RUSA, faculty vacancies have reduced and outcomes of learning improved
- There has been an improvement in accreditation too

RUSA is a well thought out plan. It will make fund releasing more transparent, accountable and adaptive.

Regular monitoring and adequate funding will pay dividends in the form of a well educated populace.

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8. Discuss the role played by PRIs in political empowerment of women. Also, suggest measures to further increase their political participation. (150 words) 10

महिलाओं के राजनीतिक सशक्तिकरण में PRIs (पंचायती राज संस्थाएं) द्वारा निभाई गई भूमिका की चर्चा कीजिए। साथ ही, उनकी राजनीतिक भागीदारी को और अधिक बढ़ाने के उपाय सुझाइए।

The 73rd amendment to the Constitution set up mandatory Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs) in every district in every state with mandatory 33% representation for women.

This has played a major role in empowering women. There are around 13.72 lakh elected women representatives (46%) and 43% of the Sarpanchs are women.

These nos. provide a sharp contrast to the Lok Sabha where the highest ever participation of women was recorded this session at only 11%.

The benefits of women participation have been an acceptance in society of female leaders; better outcomes in gender inequality reduction; sensitivity of state to women issues; better focus on health, children etc. issues and a better less violent political culture.

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Some measures to build on this are :-

- Some states have reported that women representation and sarpanchs are only there for name sake. This must be remedied.
- As the reserved constituencies change every election women report being unable to get elected twice and failing to sustain lasting change.
- Some women are elected as proxies for male family members.
- Legislation for reserving 33% seats in LS and RS and state legislatures.
- Sensitisation of official to take female reps seriously
- Capacity building and training of EWR.
- Encouraging participation of women in politics.
- Encouraging pol. parties to nominate more women.
- Financial support for women candidates.

Only if women are given adequate space in the political arena can they truly develop. These measures should be sustained and improved upon.

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9. What is Strategic Autonomy? Critically examine the elements of such a policy in India's contemporary foreign policy in the context of recent developments. **(150 words)** **10**

रणनीतिक स्वायत्तता क्या है? हाल के घटनाक्रमों के संदर्भ में भारत की समकालीन विदेश नीति में ऐसी नीति के तत्वों का आलोचनात्मक परीक्षण कीजिए।

Strategic Autonomy is the principle that a state is free to chart its own course in international affairs free from pressure exerted by foreign elements and other countries. Strategic Autonomy is a tool of India's foreign policy since 1947. It was earlier expressed as Non Alignment b/w the 2 poles of USSR or USA. After fall of USSR NAM was largely recast as Strategic Autonomy. It manifests not as equi distance from all powers but as multiple alliances.

This can be seen in recent events :-

- India has deepened military cooperation with USA by signing LEMOA and COMCASA agreements while buying weapons like S-400 from Russia.
- India is part of SCO, an Anti West Grouping and the Quad.

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- India is part of BRICS, a developing nation group while also boycotting chinese initiatives like BRI.
- India maintains relation with IRAN and USA, Saudi Arabia, Israel and Palestine.

Such an approach ensures India has options open at all times to pursue only those initiatives with other countries that are helpful to India namely multipolarity; balancing and containing China's rise; defence strengthening; combating terrorism; keeping freedom of navigation & trade open; rules based world order etc.

While strategic autonomy is crucial for India's rise there is exceeding pressure by actions like China Pak Axis or Pak Russia Axis to commit to the West and reap the benefits of defence equipment and security.

However, India's best course of action is to grow itself to have defence, indigenous economic and military strength of a level that it doesn't need to give up its autonomy.

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10. IBSA and BRICS are both examples of India's quest for multialignment, however there are key differences in their orientation. Discuss in the context of the relevance of these groupings for India. **(150 words) 10**

IBSA और BRICS दोनों भारत के बहुपक्षीय संरेखण (मल्टीएलाइन्मेंट) की तलाश के उदाहरण हैं, हालांकि उनके अभिविन्यास में मौलिक अंतर है। भारत के लिए इन समूहों की प्रासंगिकता के संदर्भ में चर्चा कीजिए।

IBSA is a dialogue forum consisting of the countries of India, Brazil and South Africa while BRICS is a grouping of 5 major developing economies of ~~India~~ Brazil, Russia, India, China & South Africa

Multialignment is the foreign policy strategy of having multiple alignments instead of aligning yourselves with 1 group or pole. It allows India to maintain Strategic Autonomy.

In that regard advantage of BRICS is :-

- Wide scope of engagement - Economic, Cultural, Strategic and Political
- Has institutional setup with financial institution like New Development Bank.
- Significant competitor to the developed world's stands like those mooted by G-4.

Advantages of being in IBSA are :-

- As the 3 countries are democracies they can have greater synergy with each other

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- India is the most imp. country in this grouping while in ~~other~~ BRICS China & Russia are powerful too. Moreover their interests often conflict with India's.
- More concerned with UNSC reforms whereas in BRICS China & Russia already are UNSC members.
- IBSA however is smaller and less influential than BRICS

Thus, we can see the complementarities between IBSA and BRICS. If India was limited to only one of them then our range of options would be limited. But with multialignment we can have strategic autonomy. India should capitalise on the democratic nature of IBSA to push for greater democratisation of global institution like UNSC, shared economic strength of BRICS to reform IMF, WB etc. and push for BRICS credit rating agency.

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11. What are the various modes of Alternate Dispute Redressal (ADR) mechanisms available in India? Identifying the problems being faced by them, provide suggestions needed to increase their effectiveness. **(250 words)** **15**

भारत में उपलब्ध वैकल्पिक विवाद निवारण (ADR) तंत्र के विभिन्न रूप क्या हैं? इनके द्वारा सामना की जा रही समस्याओं की पहचान करते हुए, इनकी प्रभावशीलता बढ़ाने के लिए आवश्यक सुझाव प्रदान कीजिए।

ADR are means of settling disputes without going to courts. These are legal methods with backing of laws like Legal Services Authorities Act but the various forms differ:-

- ARBITRATION - A neutral pre decided 3rd party reviews the evidences and hears both parties. It then gives a legally binding decision.
- MEDIATION - A neutral 3rd party mediates between the fueding parties. It helps them both reach a settlement but doesn't give its own verdict. The negotiated settlement is a consensus decision.
- ~~Con~~ONCILIATION - A voluntary process where a conciliator meets the parties seperately and tries to resolve the dispute.

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- LOK ADALAT- 2 or 3 experienced persons like Advocates or Retd. Judges sit in judgement and give verdicts. These are binding but can be appealed against in court. Under Legal Services Act, Lok Adalats are given powers of a Civil Court

- NYAYA PANCHAYAT- Village courts in the mould of traditional village justice. Only for cases of small import like minor fights, trespassing, stealing etc. Emphasis on conciliation.

Benefits of ADR

- Easily accessible to common men.
- Reduces burden on the already overburdened court system.
- Quick justice.
- Free from legal technicalities.

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However there are some issues like :-

- No guarantee of a verdict unlike normal courts
- Lack of infrastructure and awareness amongst public
- Lack of trained arbitrators and mediators.
- Their verdicts are often challenged again in courts.
- Not available throughout India.

Suggestions to Increase Effectiveness

- Professionalisation of the system, trained mediators and arbitrators by increasing pay, capacity building and training.
- Building infrastructure and awareness.
- Change people's attitudes to make this the 1st form of dispute redressal.
- Expanding role of ADR'S in pre litigation stage where possible for eg. In Family Disputes
- Promote legal education in this field.
- A code of ethics for arbitrators to prevent bias.
- A comprehensive legislation is needed to formalise ADR's and give it a sound legal basis.

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12. While the power to punish for the contempt of court is a much needed tool to protect the administration of justice from being maligned, it is time that it be relooked into. Critically analyse. **(250 words)** **15**

हालांकि न्यायालय की अवमानना के लिए दंडित करने की शक्ति न्याय के प्रशासन को निन्दा से बचाने के लिए बहुत ही आवश्यक उपकरण है, लेकिन समय आ गया है कि इस पर पुनर्विचार किया जाए। आलोचनात्मक विश्लेषण कीजिए।

Art 19, freedom of speech, has as a limitation contempt of court. This shows how important this power is. It's required by the court to ensure full justice is done, the judiciary is not maligned and their orders obeyed.

There are 2 types :- (Under Contempt of Courts Act)

- Civil Contempt – Wilful disobedience of a court order.
- Criminal Contempt – Interfering with the administration of justice, maligning the court proceedings and lowering its authority

REQUIREMENT OF POWER OF CONTEMPT

- Essential to maintain confidence in judiciary and the Rule of Law.
- Needed to maintain credibility of the court and efficiency.

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- Needed to be issued against biased media reports so that public trust in judiciary remains.
- Needed to maintain a fair and free justice system so that biased reports of an ongoing case don't either show a guilty person as innocent or vice versa.
- Needed for independence of judiciary and to prevent judgements from being affected by biased media reports.

ARGUMENTS AGAINST

- Goes against fundamental rights of free speech.
- Prevent judicial accountability. For eg. Recent reporting of a judge of the SC sitting on judgement of his own case has been termed as contemptuous.
- Open ended definition of contempt leaving a wide field open to the judge.
- Prevents the media from reporting on cases where grave miscarriage of justice takes place. For eg. Jessica Lall Case.

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- There have been instances where fair criticism by media after judgements have been passed in an arbitrary manner are also charged.

This law like Sedition Law ~~and~~ is a remnant of our Colonial Past. Where Britain itself has reformed the law, we too need to review it. After all transparency and accountability of Courts are the right of the public and the media exercises that right.

However care should be taken that in curtailing the offences under this act, the independence and effectiveness of the judiciary isn't harmed.

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13. Criminalisation of politics remains a key concern for the Indian political system. In this context, analyse the role played by the Supreme Court and Election Commission over the years. Also, in what ways can the media play a positive role? **(250 words)** **15**

राजनीति का अपराधीकरण भारतीय राजनीतिक व्यवस्था के लिए चिंता का एक प्रमुख विषय बना हुआ है। इस संदर्भ में, विगत वर्षों में सर्वोच्च न्यायालय और निर्वाचन आयोग द्वारा निभाई गई भूमिका का विश्लेषण कीजिए। साथ ही, किस प्रकार मीडिया एक सकारात्मक भूमिका का निर्वाह कर सकता है?

According to ADR reports around 34% of the present MP's have criminal charges against them. This is the highest no. yet and this number has been steadily increasing. This a cause for grave concern.

The SC has held that any sitting legislator convicted and sentenced to 2 years is ~~barred from holding office~~ loses his seat immediately. Further they have mandated that candidates have to file details of criminal convictions and pending charges along with money, wealth, spousal details etc. at the time of filling nomination.

The SC has directed setting up of fast track courts to complete trials within 1 year of sitting legislators with cases against them.

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The EC too has taken various steps:-

- Suggested debarring candidates with serious criminal charges against them like murder, rape etc.
- Digitising the voting process by removing paper ballots and introducing EVM's. This prevents booth capturing.
- Setting a limit on candidate expenditure.
- Setting Model Code of Conduct for Parties.
- Monitoring violations like usage of caste or religion to voters, over spending on paid & fake news in media.

Role played by Media

- Media can highlight the criminal past of candidates to make voters aware.
- Media can put pressure on police to take up case of illegal actions committed by legislators.
- Force the political parties to field

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clean candidates.

- Keep the voters aware.
- Refuse to carry advertisements of criminals.
- Carry out Sting Operations.
- Highlight the growing criminalisation of politics, this will make the common man aware and he might vote for clean politician.

Along with these changes like Electoral Reforms, State Funding of Elections, speedy disposal of cases, Right to Reject, Right to Recall, amendment of RPA Act to permanently debar convicted criminals from standing for elections etc. are needed to fight this menace.

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14. Highlight, in brief, the mandate of the National Commission for Minorities (NCM). Identify the different challenges that the commission faces and suggest measures to address them. **(250 words)** **15**

संक्षेप में, राष्ट्रीय अल्पसंख्यक आयोग (NCM) के अधिदेश पर प्रकाश डालिए। आयोग द्वारा सामना की जा रही विभिन्न चुनौतियों की पहचान कीजिए और उनके समाधान करने के उपाय सुझाइए।

National Commission for Minorities is a statutory body set up by the centre under the NCM Act. Its mandate is :-

- Review the functioning of safeguards and laws made for promotion of minorities welfare
- Evaluation of progress of minorities at centre and state level.
- Conducting studies and research into issues pertaining to minorities.
- Making recommendations to state and centre govt. for effective implementation of existing safeguards and suggesting new ones.
- Looking into specific complaints at the centre or state level regarding deprivation of rights of minorities and safeguard of minorities.

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Some challenges faced by NCM are :-

- Capacity Related Challenges : NCM is suffering from human resource challenges. It result in high case pendency, delayed action, delay in report making and lack of follow up.
- Legal and Constitutional Mandate : NCM lacks a constitutional mandate as given to National Commission for Scheduled Tribes or Scheduled Castes. This leaves it vulnerable to be easily changed at a future date and deprives it of constitutional protection and independence.
- Financial : NCM's budget is limited. Most of the budget is spent on salaries and very little on research related tasks.

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Reform Measures

- Setting baseline targets. This will provide an objective assessment of functioning and keep pendency in check.
- Human Resource reforms including better hiring, capacity building etc.
- Receiving anonymous feedback from citizens issuing complaints.
- Electronic grievance redressal mechanism through use of Video Conferencing.
- Fixed budget with outcome related budgeting.
- Delegating tasks to State Commissions for Minorities and strengthening them too.
- Giving Constitutional Mandate to this Commission too.

These steps will ensure that the FR guaranteed to minorities in a plural democracy like India are meaningfully implemented.

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15. The recent decision of the government to open up positions at the senior levels in bureaucracy through lateral entry is an important but only small step in the direction of much needed reforms in the higher civil services. Analyse. **(250 words)** **15**

पार्श्व प्रवेश के माध्यम से नौकरशाही में वरिष्ठ स्तर के पदों को खोलने का सरकार का हालिया निर्णय उच्चतर सिविल सेवाओं में अति आवश्यक सुधारों की दिशा में महत्वपूर्ण, किन्तु केवल एक छोटा-सा कदम है। विश्लेषण कीजिए।

The DoPT has recently invited applications from private sector experts with 20 yrs of experience for 10 posts at the Joint Secretary level for a posting of 5 years contract.

This lateral entry approach has been success in the past. For eg Sam Pitroda or Montek Singh Ahluwalia.

REASONS

- There is need for fresh blood and ideas in Indian Bureaucracy.
- These people will have experience and domain knowledge in their chosen field.
- Bringing best of private sector professionals and practices into the govt. system.
- Building competition and spurring the

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permanent executive to better themselves.

- However these 10 professionals by themselves aren't enough. Some other reforms are :-

- Enhancing Accountability → By increasing transparency and information to public.
- Transformation of Work Culture → By incentives based on bonuses or promotions or postings.
- Stable Tenure → Fixed tenure insulated from external pressure.
- Reducing Arbitrariness → By implementing rational decisions with justifications when it comes to situations like awarding tenders or making policies.
- Disciplinary Proceedings → Fast track corruption proceedings and hearings, automatic dismissal of corrupt officials. Strengthening CVC, CBI etc.
- Better Appraisal → The new 360° appraisal should be well implemented as the holistic performance will be shown. Provision for

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anonymous appraisal and complaints should also be considered.

- Private Postings → The mid and high level officers should be given option of pvt. postings to gain experience of pvt sector.
- Social Audits → Citizens and stake holders should be given chance to critique functioning of schemes at ground level.
- Insulation from Political Pressure → No arbitrary postings and stable tenure.

These reforms can help stem the spreading rot in civil services. Otherwise the edifice called Steel Backbone of India might just rust and fall down.

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16. Identifying the broad contours of the 'Transformation of Aspirational Districts' programme, explain how it adopts a novel strategy to address backwardness. **(250 words)** **15**

'आकांक्षी जिलों के रूपांतरण' कार्यक्रम की व्यापक रूपरेखा की पहचान करते हुए, व्याख्या कीजिए कि यह पिछड़ेपन से निपटने के लिए किस प्रकार नवीन रणनीति अपनाता है।

The Niti Aayog identified 115 most backward districts of India on the parameters like education, healthcare etc. because of reasons lik Left Wing Extremism.

The 'Transformation of Aspirational Districts Programme' aims to fast track the development of these districts through focussed action and intervention. The broad contours are →

- Convergence: It brings together all levels of govt. State, Centre and District
- Collaboration: Collaborative effort between Centre and State as well as civil society. The programme benefits from ~~this~~ disparate ideas, capabilities and experiences.
- Competition: It takes principle of competitive federalism to districts. As each

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district is assigned a fixed group persons in charge they compete with other groups. This will foster rapid growth.

Φ NOVELTY

- Real Time Data Collection → Niti Aayog has created a dashboard where all the relevant data is uploaded in real time. This data can be compared, analysed to show performance versus either time or other districts.
- More Autonomy to Local Govt. → Autonomy granted as each district has special problems. So autonomy given in what plans to follow and how to allocate funds
- Collaborative Approach → 3 tiers of govt. come together who work in tandem to design, drive and implement targetted policies.
- Partnering with Civil Society → leverages their unique approach and insight. Also

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used CSR funding.

- Change in Attitude → Districts called aspirational rather than backward.
- Focus on outcome → The focus on improvement of socio economic indicators.

No special funds allocated rather creative usage of existing funds and schemes.

These districts are in need of focussed care. This programme is necessary to ensure truly equitable and inclusive growth in India and to prevent only corridors of prosperity surrounded by regions of darkness.

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17. How did India fare on the Millennium Development Goals related to health? In this regard, identify the relevant Sustainable Development Goals and evaluate India's capacity to meet them. **(250 words)** **15**

स्वास्थ्य से संबंधित सहस्राब्दी विकास लक्ष्यों पर भारत का प्रदर्शन कैसा रहा? इस संबंध में, प्रासंगिक संधारणीय विकास लक्ष्यों की पहचान कीजिए और उन्हें पूरा करने में भारत की क्षमता का मूल्यांकन कीजिए।

4 out of 8 MDG's directly focussed on health while the others had an indirect bearing. In 2015 India laid out its final report on its performance :-

- Reducing poverty head count ratio → India had succeeded in nearly 50% reduction at urban and rural areas.
- Successfully halted and reversed the spread of HIV and Malaria.
- Ensuring Environmental Sustainability → Households were provided with clean water.
- Missed imp. targets like MDR ~~under 5~~ (Maternal Mortality Rate) IMR (Infant Mortality Rate), mortality rate under 5 and immunisation targets.

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The MDG's were succeeded by Sustainable Developmental Goals which were to run for a period of 15 yrs (2015-2030).

The SDG's focussed on health are -

SDG 1 → End poverty in all forms everywhere

SDG 2 → End hunger, achieve food security and promote sustainable agriculture

SDG 3 → Ensure healthy lives and promote well being for all ages.

SDG 6 → Ensure access to water and sanitation for all.

SDG 8 → Promote inclusive and sustainable economic growth, employment for all

SDG 10 → Reduce inequality within and among countries.

Broad steps taken by India are

MGNREGA, PMJDY, NSAP

ICDS, NFSA, National Mission on Sustainable Agriculture.

Swacch Bharat, Clean Ganga.

NHFS - Ayushmann Bharat.

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Issues Faced

- Tracking Progress of SDG's → Surveys are not periodically conducted. Difficulty because of vastness, terrain and socio Cultural factor. Remedy is development of indicators, use of ICT by Niti Aayog and Ministry of Health.
- Financial Concerns → Budgetary deficit, less than 2% of GDP spent on health. Remedy is spending raised to 2.5% by 2025 of GDP and raising funding from international grants.
- Capacity Building → Lack of hospitals, trained staff (doctors and nurses), lack of medical colleges brain drain, vaccines etc. Remedy is budgetary allocations for increasing capacity. Reforming education through National Medical Commission being set up. Allowing FDI in higher education sector and setting up of pvt. medical institutions. Min. of AYUSH to add traditional practitioners to the roster.

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18. What are the different rights recognized under the Forest Rights Act, 2006? Highlight the gaps in the implementation of community forest rights and community forest resource rights granted under the Forest Rights Act. Also, suggest measures to address the current scenario. **(250 words)** **15**

वन अधिकार अधिनियम, 2006 के अंतर्गत मान्यता प्राप्त विभिन्न अधिकार क्या हैं? वन अधिकार अधिनियम के अंतर्गत प्रदान किए गए सामुदायिक वन अधिकारों और सामुदायिक वन संसाधन अधिकारों के कार्यान्वयन में अंतरालों पर प्रकाश डालिए। साथ ही, वर्तमान परिदृश्य को संबोधित करने के उपाय भी सुझाइए।

The FRA, 2006 recognised the unique nature of the relationship between certain tribal communities and the forests they lived in. It aimed to balance twin claims of ecological sustainability and food and livelihood concerns.

~~Rights~~

RIGHTS GRANTED

- Right to live in the forest.
- Community Rights → Over Minor Forest Produce; recognition of forests as community forests to be protected by the community
- Individual Rights → 2hectares of land granted to those who had been traditional cultivators.
- Gram Sabha has role of giving permission to projects like diversion of land, building minor dams etc.

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CHALLENGES IN IMPLEMENTATION

- Conflict with Forest Dept. They question ability of community to maintain forest and often try to circumvent this law.
- Inter State Disparity in implementation.
- Lack of knowledge about act amongst forest dwellers.
- Huge tendency of claims because of difficulty of verification.
- Vested interests exploiting the law to use forest produce for unintended purposes or to grab forest land.
- Gram Sabha ineffectiveness → Either ignored, not consulted, rubber stamped, or not even convened.
- Conflicts in laws for forest and wildlife protection and FRA.
- Claims from forest dwellers not mentioned in act schedule, not recognised.

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Recommendation for Improvement

- Harmonisation of protection/conservation laws and FRA. Activities allowed in FRA shouldn't be prohibited (For eg. Grazing)
- Capacity building and training of forest dwellers to enhance income from MFP while protecting forest and ecosystem.
- Sensitisation and awareness spreading of act amongst both forest dwellers and the forest dept. officials.
- Forcing states to implement all the provisions of this act like converting gram sabhas and assigning land deeds.
- Monitoring of the implementation by Ministry of Tribal Affairs.
- Clearing the claims pending at the earliest.

This law is a much needed law to allow the development of historically neglected tribals in our society. It must be implemented in the full spirit of the law.

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19. Progress in India-US ties has been accompanied by equally significant divergences on important issues. Examine in the context of recent developments. **(250 words)** **15**

भारत-अमेरिका संबंधों में प्रगति समान रूप से महत्वपूर्ण मुद्दों पर उल्लेखनीय असहमति के साथ हुई है। हाल के घटनाक्रमों के संदर्भ में परीक्षण कीजिए।

Indo US ties have had a lot of momentous events happing in the past few years :-

- Defence Cooperation → India is now a 'Major Defence Partner'. India buys weapons, missiles, drones etc. from USA and conducts exercises like Malabar Naval Exercises. India has also signed Logistics Agreement (LEMOA) and intelligence sharing agreement (COMCASA)

- Civil Nuclear Deal → After sanctioning India in 1998 for Pokhran-II nuclear tests USA had in 2008 gotten India a waiver from NSG rules. This has secured India ability to get nuclear tech. and fuel and enter into such agreements with other nations.

- Strategic Issues → With shared interests like containing and managing China's growth, open sea lanes of communication,

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peace in Afghanistan, etc. India and US share a lot of common strategic goals. The Quad and formulation of Indo Pacific; Pivot to Asia; Sanctioning Pakistan in FATF Grey and now Black List; cutting military aid to Pakistan are some events which showcase this.

- Counter Terrorism → Peace in Afghanistan is desired. India and US share intelligence on terrorist activities. USA has also been interested in counter insurgency ops done by India at high altitudes.

Other than these India and USA have a booming trade business, cooperation on technology, science, space, education etc. Indian Americans are also the most well off minority in USA.

DIVERGENCES

- The growing protectionism of Trump's USA. He is starting trade wars - raising tariff barriers which hurt India as it enjoys

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a trade surplus.

- USA has raised issue of high tariffs on Harley Davidson bike by India. Compulsory pricing of medical equipment like Stents and India's agricultural import barriers
- To protect jobs USA has proposed cuts in H1B visas.
- USA's worsening relations with Russia and Iran and the CAATSA act which sanctions Companies dealing with them. This hurts India's deals like S-400 with Russia or ~~Gwadar~~ Chabahar port in Iran. Even though USA ~~has~~ may have allowed waiver to India.
- IPR issues, agricultural subsidies issue at WTO is a source of disagreement.
- 2+2 dialogue was cancelled.

India should be sensitive to US concerns as its preeminent global status makes good deals essential if India is to fulfill its national interest. Though India should continue trade with Russia to maintain Strategic Autonomy.

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20. Despite bonhomie, the structural differences between Indian and Israeli national security situations, their worldviews and absence of explicitly shared enemies limit stronger strategic rapprochement. Critically discuss.

(250 words) 15

सौहार्दपूर्ण संबंधों के बावजूद, भारतीय और इज़राइली राष्ट्रीय सुरक्षा परिस्थितियों के मध्य संरचनात्मक अंतर, उनके वैश्विक दृष्टिकोण और स्पष्ट रूप से साझा शत्रुओं की अनुपस्थिति मजबूत रणनीतिक मैत्री को सीमित करती है। आलोचनात्मक चर्चा कीजिए।

India - Israel relations are of a paradoxial nature. While elements in Indian polity favour the relationship largely because of it anti Palestine nature others abhor it because of the same. However the relationship is largely transactional as each country understand the gains it can get from it.

Even recently post PM Modi's historical visit to Israel India voted in UNGA in favour of a motion condemning USA shifting its embassy to the contested city of Jerusalem from Tel Aviv.

The 3 pillars of the relationship are →

- Trade → Israel manufactures high end weapons and is technologically advanced. India is its major buyer.

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- With the proposed FTA trade is expected to double.
- Cooperation in defence sector with tech transfer.
- Cooperation in sustainable agriculture
- Possibility of strategic convergence.

Limitations

- India has close ties with West Asian Arab nations with interest in energy, investment and a huge diaspora and immigration there. They are in turn not in favour of India Israel ties.
- Indo Iran ties are on the rise, this too is an issue as Iran and Israel are fighting proxy wars.
- India supports the Palestine Cause, usually condemns Israeli actions in UN assembly meetings and this is a huge irritant in the relationship.

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- Both these countries differ in counter terrorism strategies.

These differences need not be present deepening of ties. India can gain much from Israeli cooperation. For instance, after compulsary military service India is the top tourism destination of Israelis. Cooperation in cyber space, missile tech, defence, counter terrorism, intelligence, agriculture, investment, water desalination etc. can drive the relationship.

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Name of Candidate	Nihal Randhawa		
Medium Eng./Hindi	English	Registration Number	58233
Center	NA	Date	11-Sep-2018

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Q. No.	Maximum Marks	Marks Obtained
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16	15	
17	15	
18	15	
19	15	
20	15	

Total Marks Obtained:

Remarks:

INSTRUCTIONS

1. Do furnish the appropriate details in the answer sheet (viz. Name, Registration Number and Test Code).
   उत्तर पुस्तिका में सूचनाएं भरना आवश्यक है (नाम, प्रश्न-पत्र कोड, विद्यार्थी क्रमांक आदि)।
2. There are **TWENTY** questions printed in **ENGLISH & HINDI**
   bl esa chl iz'u gSa vaxzsth vkSj fgUnh esa Nis gSa
3. **All questions are compulsory.**
   lHkh iz'u vfuok;Z gSa
4. The number of marks carried by a question/part is indicated against it.
   izR;sd iz'u@Hkkx ds vad mlds lkeus fn, x, gSa
5. Answers must be written in the medium authorized in the Admission Certificate, which must be stated clearly on the cover of this Question-Cum-Answer (QCA) Booklet in the space provided. No marks will be given for answers written in medium other that the authorized one.
   प्रश्नों के उत्तर उसी माध्यम में लिखे जाने चाहिए, जिसका उल्लेख आपके प्रवेश पत्र में किया गया है और उस माध्यम का स्पष्ट उल्लेख प्रश्न-सह-उत्तर (क्यूसीए) पुस्तिका के मुख्य पृष्ठ पर अंकित निर्दिष्ट स्थान पर किया जाना चाहिए। उल्लिखित माध्यम के अतिरिक्त अन्य किसी माध्यम में लिए गए उत्तर पर कोई अंक ugha feysaxsA
6. Word limit in questions, if specified, should be adhered to.
   प्रश्नों में शब्द सीमा, जहाँ विनिर्दिष्ट है, का अनुसरण किया जाना pkfg,A
7. Any page or portion of the page left blank in the Question-Cum-Answer Booklet must be clearly struck off.
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EVALUATION INDICATORS

1. Contextual Competence
2. Content Competence
3. Language Competence
4. Introduction Competence
5. Structure - Presentation Competence
6. Conclusion Competence

Overall Macro Comments / feedback / suggestions on Answer Booklet:

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.

6.

All the Best

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1. There are many challenges in sustainably scaling up renewable energy in India. Analyse. Also, discuss what can be done to address these challenges. **(150 words) 10**

भारत में नवीकरणीय ऊर्जा को संधारणीय रूप से बढ़ाने में कई चुनौतियां हैं। विश्लेषण कीजिए। साथ ही, चर्चा कीजिए कि इन चुनौतियों से निपटने के लिए क्या किया जा सकता है।

The government has set a target of generating 175 GW of renewable power by 2022, 100 GW from solar power, 60 GW from wind.

Challenges

- Transmission issues, the existing transmission infrastructure can't handle the renewable electricity nature.
- Supply and not demand driven.
- Inability to meet peak demand. Conventional sources can scale up and scale down as per demand but renewable sources like solar will generate depending only on the sun's intensity at a particular time.
- Low prices. The cost of generating electricity is falling down and is predicted to fall further in the future. This means DISCOM's don't want to get into long term contracts right now.

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- Technological barriers with concerns related to panel quality and lifespan especially in tropical Indian conditions.
- Low private investment.

How to Tackle Challenges

- Better Regulation - Develop expertise among policy makers, coordinate decision making, and develop long term strategy.
- Enhance Grid Capacity - Focus on smart grids and improve grid tech.
- Technological Aids - Batteries can solve the problem of demand and supply and peak demand.
- Improve Transmission - Set up renewable energy sources near demand areas to reduce transmission losses. Cross state energy supply to be made easier. Green Energy corridors and Ultra Mega Solar Parks to be linked.

Thus an ecosystem of govt, industry and utilities is to be created to facilitate renewable energy.

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2. The policies and indicators introduced by the government, in recent times, to finance urban development in India are key in addressing the existing challenges. Discuss with special reference to municipal bonds.

(150 words) 10

हाल ही में, भारत में शहरी विकास का वित्त पोषण करने के लिए सरकार द्वारा आरंभ की गई नीतियां और संकेतक वर्तमान चुनौतियों से निपटने हेतु महत्वपूर्ण हैं। नगरपालिका बंधपत्रों (म्युनिसिपल बॉण्ड) के विशेष संदर्भ के साथ चर्चा कीजिए।

India's Urban population is estimated to grow from 32% at present to 50% by 2030. To manage this urbanisation we need to provide better facilities in cities.

The government has passed the 74th amendment to create Urban Local Bodies (ULB's) to manage urban areas. Recently it has also implemented ~~passed~~ many policies like Swacch Bharat, Smart Cities Mission, HRIDAY, Atal Regeneration, Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana to tackle specific shortcomings like Housing or ~~Sanitary issues~~ Sanitation.

The ULB's are key partners in this scheme but lack funding to properly implement this. So the govt. has come up with policies and indicators to finance urban development :-

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- Value Capture Financing (VCF) - People who benefit from infrastructural or service upgradation pay for it. Eg. Land Value Tax.
- Credit Rating of Cities - Based on revenue sources, population, fiscal performance of municipalities etc. Viable Cities can raise money from market.
- Competitive Sub Federalism - Cities compete on indicators like Swaccch Bharat rankings, fostering better performance amongst all.
- Municipal Bonds - Municipalities can issue bonds to raise money for specific projects. These allow autonomy to municipalities and their tax free status attracts investors.

The following steps can enhance their appeal :-

- Financial Audits of ULB's.
- Disclosure of project details and enhancing viability.
- Financial autonomy and competent project execution
- Better awareness amongst investors as well as ULB's about this option.

Such measures can enhance trust and cause bonds, like in developed countries, to be the financial instrument of choice.

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3. With a number of issues continuing to be a roadblock, a large section of India's rural population is still 'financially excluded'. Discuss. Analyse how these issues can be addressed and the measures taken by the government and RBI recently in this regard. **(150 words) 10**

कई मुद्दों के लगातार अवरोध बने रहने से भारत की ग्रामीण जनसंख्या का एक बड़ा हिस्सा अभी भी 'वित्तीय रूप से अपवर्जित' है। चर्चा कीजिए। इन मुद्दों से कैसे निपटा जा सकता है और हाल ही में सरकार तथा RBI द्वारा इस संबंध में उठाए गए कदमों का विश्लेषण कीजिए।

Financial Inclusion implies easy accessibility to formal banking institutions and their products and services

Reasons for Rural Exclusion

- Demand Side Constraints - Lack of awareness, financial illiteracy, lack of collateral, low income etc.
- Supply Side Impediments - Lack of branches, human resources of banks uninterested in rural postings, lack of profit, agricultural NPA's, loan waivers etc.
- Reliance on Informal Credit - Moneylenders have advantage of lending for marriages, health reasons etc; without collateral demands; to landless informal tenant etc.
- Accessibility: Require documents pertaining to land rights, collateral etc; visits to

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bank branches etc.

- Bank Accounts – Before JanDhan Yojana many farmers lacked bank accounts.

This issue can be addressed through improving bank, electricity, ICT related infrastructure; awareness generation campaigns; using SHG's and NGO's as microfinance institutions; doorstep delivery of banking services using POS cards and mobile banking etc.

The govt. and the RBI have taken steps :-

- JAM – Jandhan, Aadhar and Mobile.
- Indian Postal Bank to leverage the reach of post offices in the country.
- RBI has stipulated compulsory opening of rural branches for all banks.
- Priority Sector Lending Norms.
- MUDRA Bank to provide collateral free credit to rural entrepreneurs.
- Overall, significant improvement has been seen by effort of RRB, RBI, Govt, SHG's, Cooperatives, more initiatives are needed.

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4. What do you understand by the term 'Environmental Accounting'? Discussing the rationale behind introducing environmental accounting, highlight its status in India. **(150 words) 10**

'पर्यावरणीय लेखांकन' पद से आप क्या समझते हैं? पर्यावरणीय लेखांकन आरंभ करने के औचित्य की चर्चा करते हुए, भारत में इसकी स्थिति पर प्रकाश डालिए।

Environmental Accounting refers to the practice of including the cost to the environment (pollution, deforestation, climate change, damage to rivers etc.) along with standard accounting costs when evaluating a project.

It allows people to see the cost to the environment of any organisational or national activity. It has come into prominence after environmental consciousness has grown.

RATIONALE

- Traditional accounting practices failed to account for the cost to the environment.

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- This is more multidimensional, measures to cost to company for ~~suffer~~ impact on environment too.
- Ascertains the cost to clean up damaged sites, reduce pollution impact, waste mgmt. costs etc.
- Crucial in reducing impact on environment
- Encourages consumers to 'go green' and 'buy green'.

Indian Scenario

- Fundamental duty of every citizen to protect the environment and citizens have a right to clean environment. This is an offshoot of these.
- Various laws and regulations impose limits and rules on companies for environmentally hazardous activities like mining or waste treatment or disposal.
- Environmental Impact Assessment is mandatory under Environmental Protection Act before giving permission to start projects.

Thus seeing the importance, environmental accounting has emerged as a fair method of accounting for true cost of development.

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5. While access to irrigation is important, efficiency of water use is equally, if not more, crucial. Examine. **(150 words) 10**

जहाँ सिंचाई तक पहुँच महत्वपूर्ण है, वहीं जल उपयोग दक्षता भी यदि अधिक नहीं तो उतनी ही महत्वपूर्ण है। परीक्षण कीजिए।

India is largely an agrarian country with roughly 50% of the population working in farm or non farm rural activities contributing 17% of GDP. The nature of cropping differs from region to region with some areas like Punjab having 98% of the land as irrigated land to other states where 90% of agri. land is rainfed.

Access to irrigation is crucial, it relieves farmers from the vagaries of a drought, low or late monsoon and gives freedom to plant a more water dependent crop than possible if reliant on monsoon (For eg Punjab, water deficient state has major paddy yield). Irrigation was major factor behind green revolution, chemical fertilizers, intensive cropping and 2-3 cropping seasons leading to India becoming self sufficient in food.

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However in India farming accounts for 70% of total water use, with around 52% of total farm land unirrigated. So while access to irrigation is important, equally important is improving water use efficiency:-

- Reduce regional disparity in crop yields and income. (Primarily b/w western and eastern India)
- Industrialisation and Urbanisation will increase demands on scarce water resources. Efficiency in use can prevent squabbles like Cauvery Water issue where Bangalore's needs were contrasted with needs of Tamil farmers.
- Excess use of water can lead to salinity and wasteland.
- Excess dependence on industrialisation leads to cropping pattern at variance with climatic conditions. Efficient water use dictates harmony with nature.

Recent initiatives like 'More Crop for Drop', 'Fasal Sinchayee Yojana', Collaboration with Israel on sprinkler technology etc. show that the govt. too is recognising the need to achieve water efficiency along with increasing irrigation coverage.

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6. For a holistic approach to disaster risk reduction, there is a need to mainstream indigenous traditional knowledge and link it with modern technologies. Analyse. (150 words) 10

आपदा जोखिम न्यूनीकरण के एक समग्र दृष्टिकोण के लिए, देशज पारंपरिक ज्ञान को मुख्यधारा में लाने और उसे आधुनिक तकनीकों से जोड़ने की आवश्यकता है। विश्लेषण कीजिए।

Disaster Risk Reduction refers to measures or policies taken in advance to reduce the possibility of a disaster occurring and to minimise its effects.

Disasters especially natural ones have been occuring since the dawn of human civilisation and every culture or people devise methods to deal with them which are then passed on to us. Integration of traditional technology, cultural heritage and modern methodology can result in a holistic approach to disaster risk reduction.

Examples

- Coastal disasters - During the 2004 tsunami many tribes in Andaman and Nicobar recognised the warning sign of extreme receding of water and rushed to a high area, saving themselves.
- Rivers floods - Locals in flood prone areas like Assam create bunds by bamboo plantation along the bank.

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- Desert related - The shrub/tree Kair helps in providing shade, fodder, fuel, wood, building material and also protects against desertification of semi arid surrounding regions and thus is venerated by the locals.
- Mountain Ecosystem - In Leh/Ladakh locals living in higher reaches or upstream areas warn the ones living downstream of flash floods by monitoring the water level in 'Nalldahs'.
- Water Resource Management - Creation of ~~bou~~ 'boudis' or their equivalent in dry region like Rajastan or MP or Gujarat. Source of water, conserves rainfall and helps in irrigation by bringing water table up.

We can mainstream these technologies by :-

- Documentation of these practices and oral history.
- Research about non mainstream practices.
- Dissemination of learned information in easily accessible fashion.
- Collaboration b/w researchers and technologists who can combine insight gained by these practices and modern technology to create new tool.

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7. What do you understand by food irradiation? Highlighting some of its unique applications, examine its relevance for India. **(150 words) 10**

खाद्य विकिरण (food irradiation) से आप क्या समझते हैं? इसके कुछ विशिष्ट अनुप्रयोगों पर प्रकाश डालते हुए, भारत के लिए इसकी प्रासंगिकता का परीक्षण कीजिए।

Food Irradiation is a food processing technique where raw or processed food items are exposed to short wave radiation energy. This helps in preservation. Other applications are extension of shelf life, disinfection, elimination of pathogens, sterilisation etc.

It has an advantage over other methods to achieve preservation :-

- Shape or texture of material doesn't matter
- Heat sensitive materials can also be irradiated..
- Product is proven to be sterile, can comply with phyto sanitary norms and can be exported.
- Irradiation has no harmful effects and can be ~~used~~ consumed immediately.
- No alteration in size, shape, smell etc of food product.

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Relevance for India

- Very effective in treating and preserving produce, helps in food and nutrition security.
- Hot and humid climate of India promotes spoilage and growth of pathogens. This treats that.
- Promotes export as India can comply with WTO norms on Non Tariff Barriers.
- Promotes health as certain types of food like meat can otherwise spoil very easily
- Better returns to farmers and mitigates effect ones of under production. Increases time in hand that food can be stored.

Keeping the advantages in mind, in its push for increasing food processing sector govt. has also kept food irradiation in mind. It has budgeted for setting up irradiation facilities in Mega Food Parks and at APMC mandis.

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8. Whereas misuse of technology has abetted the spread of fake news, it is with the aid of technology that this menace can be curbed. Elaborate. (150 words) 10

जहां प्रौद्योगिकी के दुरुपयोग ने फेक न्यूज़ (झूठे समाचारों) के प्रसार को बढ़ावा दिया है, वहीं प्रौद्योगिकी की सहायता से ही इस खतरे पर अंकुश भी लगाया जा सकता है। सविस्तार वर्णन कीजिए।

Fake news is news reports or stories intentionally fabricated or misleading to push an agenda, deceive people or influence them. The purpose is usually to win elections, implant a political agenda, engender racism or communalism or to cause riots or other public mischief.

Misuse of Technology has abetted fake news :-

- Fake websites or reports that are fabricated to look like real legitimate sources of news are made and they disseminate fake news.
- Photoshop can morph and digitally alter photos to create misleading images of public figures, celebs, riots etc.
- Psychological advancements esp. in the field of Mass Psychology has led to development of sophisticated propaganda methods.
- AI based companies like Cambridge Analytica can illegally gain access to social media

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profiles to disseminate targeted fake news.

Thus, we see misuse of technology has caused this phenomenon. However tech aid can help target it :-

- Stronger data privacy laws limiting companies access to information and ability to sell it for profit. For eg EU's GDPR laws.
- Use of media to propagate information about false news and the spread of legitimate news through official sources.
- Rise of fact checking websites and groups who proactively vet news.
- Limitation on Whatsapp ~~where you can only~~ with limit on no. of forwards.
- A labelling feature to see original source of forwarded messages.
- Social media sites like Facebook have created machine learning tools to proactively recognise and flag potentially fake news and then vet it.

Ultimately technology is what humans make of it. The challenge is a human one as old as the first lie ever spoken. Encouraging rational thought, scepticism, reading with an unbiased mind through a holistic education system is the only lasting solution.

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9. Explain the salient features of the recently established Defence Planning Committee. How can it help in credible defence preparedness?

(150 words) 10

हाल ही में गठित रक्षा नियोजन समिति (डिफेंस प्लानिंग कमेटी) की प्रमुख विशेषताओं की व्याख्या कीजिए। यह विश्वसनीय रक्षा तैयारी में कैसे सहायता कर सकता है?

The Defence Planning Committee is a permanent body set up under the chairmanship of the National Security Advisor (NSA) with members being the 3 service chiefs of the Army, Navy and Air force as well as ~~defe~~ Defence Secretary, Foreign Secretary and Secretary of Min. of Finance.

It is tasked to analyse and evaluate all relevant inputs with bearing on :-

- National Defence and Security.
- Foreign Policy Imperatives
- Defence Acquisition and Infrastructure Development.
- Relevant Strategic and Security Doctrines.
- Defence Technology and Development of Indian Defence Industry.
- Operational Directives and Associated Requirements.

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Its reports will be sent to the Defence Ministry and further action taken thereon.

This was required due to lacunae in the existing process :-

- Difficulty in prioritising goals and allocating resources.
- Lack of integrated approach.
- Little focus on indigenisation of defence procurement and production.
- The operational and strategic difficulties created due to not having position of Chief of Defence Staff.
- Myopic focus on own needs by each wing of the armed forces rather than an integrated approach.
- Mistrust between army and govt. bureaucracy.

DPC would be an improvement by leveraging inter departmental cooperation to enhance India's defence strengths. Thus it is a timely step for India.

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10. Recent reports of Maoist leaders having amassed huge assets in property and cash underlines the significance of probing the funding network as part of counter-terrorism efforts. Discuss. **(150 words) 10**

संपत्ति और नकदी के रूप में विशाल परिसंपत्तियां एकत्रित करने वाले माओवादी नेताओं की हालिया रिपोर्टों ने आतंकवाद-रोधी प्रयासों के भाग के रूप में वित्त पोषण नेटवर्क की जाँच करने का महत्व रेखांकित किया है। चर्चा कीजिए।

Former PM Manmohan Singh called Left Wing Extremism (LWE) as the gravest threat facing India. The persistence and scale of the threat are in part due to its extensive and sophisticated funding network. The Enforcement Directorate (ED) has recently attached properties worth crores of Naxal leaders in Bihar.

Principal Sources of Funding

- Extortion of money from local farmers, factories etc. Kidnapping of govt. officials, businessmen et. for ransom too.
- Mining industry, tendu leaves, PWD work etc. are money source via corruption or black mail.
- Sophisticated international network where either sympathisers overseas or hostile countries fund money and send arms through collaborators.

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Methods to Combat Financial Terrorism

- Strengthening auditing of public schemes in ~~the~~ LWE affected areas to stop leakage.
- Instead of auctioning to contractors projects in LWE areas, govt. dept. like BRO or PWD can undertake projects.
- Promoting industrialisation and entrepreneurship to wean tribals away from extremism.
- Updating security at industrial areas, mines and other vulnerable spots.
- Crack down on illegal mining, forest cutting etc
- Strengthening international borders to combat smuggling drugs, arms etc.
- Verification of sources of income of suspicious persons, NGO's et al who can be source of funding.
- Encouraging extortion, kidnapping victims to report and cooperate with security forces.

Thus, if we can choke off the money supply to LWE by a proactive and multi dimensional strategy we will go a long way in ~~stop~~ stopping it.

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11. Not only do services MSMEs contribute mightily to the overall GDP growth, they have a powerful, multiplier impact on the local economies as well. Elaborating on the statement, highlight the problems faced by service sector MSMEs. How can the government make it easier for MSMEs to start and grow a business? **(250 words) 15**

MSMEs से संबद्ध सेवा उद्यम न केवल समग्र GDP संवृद्धि में बहुत अधिक योगदान देती हैं, बल्कि उनका स्थानीय अर्थव्यवस्थाओं पर भी एक सशक्त और गुणक प्रभाव है। इस कथन का सविस्तार वर्णन करते हुए, MSMEs सेवा क्षेत्रक द्वारा सामना की जा रही समस्याओं पर प्रकाश डालिए। सरकार MSMEs के लिए किसी व्यवसाय को आरंभ करने और उसके विकास को कैसे आसान बना सकती है?

The service sector contributes to around 58% of annual Indian GDP. There are 10-50 million service MSME's in sectors as varied as accountancy, catering, yoga, software development, legal aid etc.

Significance of Service MSME

- Employment Generation – They absorb many of the better educated demographic.
- Minimising Regional Inequalities – Due to ICT tools, they can be set up in remoted location.
- Indigenous Innovation – Indian MSME's can aid in developing latest technology due to high quality human resource availability.
- Growing and Developing Economy – As an economy and people increase their income,

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their need for services increase.

- Inclusive Growth: They are generally more gender equal and caste ~~sensit~~ inclusive employers.
- Foreign Export: India earns forex currency by exporting service products.
- Sustainable Growth: Unlike manufacturing requiring land, raw materials, waste disposal etc. service sector is much less polluting.

Major Problems Faced

- Lack of Regular Work - Sometimes global scenarios like a recession can affect earning potential.
- Lack of Capital - Without hard asset as collateral banks are wary of lending money.
- Marketing Channels - Mainstream media and advertising is geared towards needs of bigger companies.
- Excessive regulations on Labour - If they wish to increase no. of employees then they have to comply with excessive

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regulations inhibiting their growth.

- Lack of Quality Employees - Most employees prefer the stability of a govt. job or ~~the~~ a big corporation, further Indian education system has very few quality graduates.

Government Interventions

- Availability of uncollateralised credit - Create multiple streams of credit ~~and~~.
- Ease norms to promote entrepreneurship - Tax breaks, easing regulations on hiring and firing, quick exit, IBC regulations etc.
- Access to modern technology - Promote access to latest tech.
- Promote Start Ups and Venture Fund collaborations through setting up dedicated office space and inviting start ups to move there. For eg Telangana Govt. setting up T-Hub in collaboration with IIIT Hyderabad and ISB.

Apt strategies should be evolved for creating an enabling ecosystem.

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12. Contract Farming has many advantages, however it suffers from market failures. Elaborate. What can the government do to correct problems that lead to contract failures? Also, discuss whether the Model Contract Farming Act, 2018 is a step in the right direction. **(250 words) 15**

संविदा कृषि (कॉन्ट्रैक्ट फार्मिंग) के कई लाभ हैं, हालांकि यह बाजार की विफलताओं से ग्रस्त है। सविस्तार वर्णन कीजिए। सरकार, संविदा विफलताओं का कारण बनने वाली समस्याओं को ठीक करने हेतु क्या कर सकती है? साथ ही, चर्चा कीजिए कि क्या मॉडल संविदा कृषि अधिनियम, 2018 सही दिशा में उठाया गया एक कदम है।

Contract Farming refers to agreements between farmers and corporates specifying production and supply of a particular crop and rate at which it will be bought.

It has benefit for farmers like insulating from low price in future, being provided quality seeds, fertilizers and other inputs etc. For the buyer it reduces volatility, ensures quality products and availability of raw material.

In India APMC regulates all sales of crops including contract farming. The agricultural marketing system in India causes failure to properly utilise contract farming :-

- APMC mandate that all contracts be registered with them causing undue interference.
- Most lands are tilled by informal tenants who cannot ~~get~~ enter into contracts.

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- Land Fragmentation and small land holdings don't provide corporations with the economies of scale they need.
- Few firms participate so they have virtual monopoly.
- Asymmetry of Information where farmers can be exploited.
- Over taxation by APMC's.

Measures that can be taken by Govt

- Reform the APMC (Most states should adopt Model APMC act) to take Contract Farming out of it ambit.
- Generate and spread awareness about contract farming among farmers and corporates.
- Maintain information repository so that farmers and buyers can evaluate each other.
- Encourage corporations to disseminate quality inputs and technical know how to their farming partners.
- Govt. should ~~facilit~~ ensure that fair and accessible alternate dispute resolution mechanisms and payment standards are mentioned in contract.

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In this context, the Model Contract Farming Act, 2018 is a step in the right direction. It takes it out of the purview of APMC. It ensures that farmers rights on land are protected. It also makes crop insurance mandatory. It also includes provisions for a dispute settlement mechanism.

However the act requires sponsors and farmers to register the contract with a registering committee increasing cost prohibitively.

It also uses concept of family farms which is irrelevant in India as 86% of landholdings are small or marginal. Also it being a State Issue under 7th Schedule means inordinate delay or changes until its adopted by the States.

So, contract farming in India remains a work in progress while the output requirements from Indian Agriculture keep on increasing.

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13. Suggest the measures needed to improve the employability of labour force as well as increasing number of employment opportunities in light of structural changes being brought by disruptive technologies.

(250 words) 15

विघटनकारी प्रौद्योगिकियों (डिस्रप्टिव टेक्नोलॉजी) द्वारा लाए जा रहे संरचनात्मक परिवर्तनों के प्रकाश में श्रम बल की नियोजनीयता में सुधार लाने के साथ-साथ रोजगार अवसरों की संख्या बढ़ाने के लिए आवश्यक उपायों का सुझाव दीजिए।

Automation, Machine Learning, AI are just some of the disruptive technologies which are heralding in what some call the Fourth Industrial Age. While profits and ~~production~~ productivity are rising it is predicted that there would be great fall in number of jobs.

The measures needed to combat this are:-

- Increase in skill of workforce. Automation can render blue collar jobs obsolete but highly educated ~~jobs~~ workforce ~~are~~ is still employable.
- Collaboration between industry and academia to fuel jobs at cutting edge of technology
- Skill upgradation of workers whose jobs are now obsolete.
- ~~Gov~~ Government should attract FDI and foreign venture capitalists to fuel India's Start Ups.
- Support Competitiveness Enhancing policies for Indian Companies.
- Support labour intensive industries like Apparel.

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- Ensure Equitable access to education.
- Expand MSME's growth related initiatives.
- Formulate life long learning initiatives among citizens like online courses, MOOC's, certification courses, career counselling centres etc.
- Encourage start ups that transform unorganised sector into formal sector.
- Industries should be encouraging employee training, on the job learning initiatives.
- Industry Govt. collaboration to ensure India is at the forefront of Industry 4.0.
- Embrace the Online Economy. Take advantage of connectivity and scaling related growth.
- Individuals can use the automation and productivity gains to start their own businesses which will have the scale to compete with anyone.

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If we recall the Luddites during the 1st Industrial Revolution, they too were afraid of the changes wrought by technology. Yet we saw that technology can create jobs that we can't even imagine. It is important to ~~use~~ see technology as a ~~threat and not~~ an opportunity and not a threat, because after all there's always communion.

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14. India's trade policy in agriculture, marred by ad-hocism and pro-consumer bias, has constrained realization of export potential, and prevented the farmers from reaping the benefits. Examine the statement and discuss ways, including government initiatives, to improve agricultural exports.

(250 words) 15

तदर्थता और उपभोक्ता समर्थक पक्षपात से प्रभावित, कृषि में भारत की व्यापार नीति ने निर्यात सामर्थ्य की प्राप्ति को बाधित किया है तथा किसानों को लाभ उठाने से रोका है। इस कथन का परीक्षण कीजिए और सरकारी पहलों सहित कृषि निर्यात में सुधार लाने के तरीकों पर चर्चा कीजिए।

At the recent WTO inter ministerial meetings, one of the biggest stumbling blocks for India is its reluctance to allow free imports and exports in the agricultural sector. Even after 1991 liberalisation, India's agri GDP is only 1/5th. Its share in global agricultural trade is only 2% despite containing nearly 7% of global land.

ICRIER reports show Indian govt. often resorting to export controlling measures like export bans or high minimum export prices to prevent inflation, causing the farmers to not grow exportable crops and hindering the growth of agricultural export market in India.

The harmful effects of this are imbalance in Indian prices and world prices, harming

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potential income of farmers, cropping distortions and instability in Agro Processing sector. Such ad hocism is unsustainable and undesirable. The sole reason for this is protecting the consumers from high prices by preventing export at a time of potential shortage.

To double farmers income by 2022 and generate gainful employment the govt. needs to rethink its export policy :-

- Food and Agriculture Ministry should work in tandem to ensure low prices and high production.
- Better coordination b/w centre and states to usher farming reform.
- Eliminate restrictions like Export Bans and Minimum Export Price unless in state of drought or famine.
- Govt. should ensure private sector participation in farming and keep global competitiveness in mind while deciding on MSP.

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- Create a Predictable and Stable Policy.
- Overhaul Essential Commodities Act and APMC Act to enable farmers to be competitive and in tune with market realities.
- Overhaul Food Processing industry to make it world class and export worthy.

Overall the policy should balance needs of farmers and consumers on this issue. Farmers should not bear the brunt of keeping food prices low and not getting a fair price.

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15. Is currency exchange rate a suitable measure of relative economic performance of countries? Despite improving macro-economic fundamentals, trade deficit in India continues to widen. Bring out the factors responsible for this situation. **(250 words) 15**

क्या मुद्रा विनिमय दर देशों के सापेक्ष आर्थिक प्रदर्शन की एक उपयुक्त माप है? मैक्रो इकनॉमिक फंडामेंटल्स (समष्टि-आर्थिक आधारों) में सुधार के बावजूद, भारत में व्यापार घाटा निरंतर बढ़ा है। इस स्थिति के लिए उत्तरदायी कारकों को प्रस्तुत कीजिए।

The exchange rate is not directly related to the economic performance of a country but its certainly correlated. However there is no direct link, a strong ~~act~~ currency disfavors exports which causes the currency to fall, which again makes exports competitive and causes currency demand to rise.

However this situation doesn't occur because of other trends like inflation, artificially low currencies, domestic consumption etc.

Most countries and central banks like RBI consider volatility to be the biggest threat. RBI manages the volatility of currency with help of large forex reserves.

Indias has good performance on certain indicators →

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- Low and reducing fiscal deficit (3.2% of GDP)
- Huge foreign currency reserves with RBI.
- Stable Economy with a stable government.
- High rate of GDP growth (above 7%)
- Huge domestic market with increase in exports too.
- Low oil prices globally. (Historically India's biggest and most expensive import).

Yet, we see an year on year weakening of Indian Currency due to :-

- High Current Account Deficit largely due to import of Gold and Petroleum products.
- Recent increase in commodity prices, oil prices are now almost 50% higher than last year.
- Subdued External Demand for India's exports due to rising trend of protectionism.
- India's inability to join trade blocs like RCEP, revive SAARC FTA idea, pen EU-India FTA etc.

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- No great increase in export value, India ~~fo~~ largely exports raw or intermediate goods and imports more expensive finished goods due to inverted duty structure.
- Impact of GST and demonitisation. It disrupted MSME and many export oriented sectors and stalled growth and momentum.

The global recovery from 2008 crisis hasn't reached India yet. India should take advantage of its weak rupee and ensure robust credit growth, capture new export markets and contracts ~~or~~ and increase investor confidence to boost its growth.

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16. It will take much more than relief packages to address the problems being faced by the sugar industry in India. Discuss.

(250 words) 15

भारत में चीनी उद्योग द्वारा सामना की जा रही समस्याओं को दूर करने के लिए राहत पैकेज से आगे और कुछ करने की आवश्यकता है। चर्चा कीजिए।

Sugar Industry faces annual crises causing anguish to 50 million sugarcane farmers and 7% of the rural population involved in various facets of the industry.

The problems are manifold :-

PRICING

- Due to record sugarcane growth the price of sugarcane crashed leading to demands of high Fair and Remunerative Price.
- High FRP cannot be adhered to by mills causing huge arrears.

POLICY

- High regulatory burden on mills with relation to prices, compulsory purchase of sugarcane.
- Ill thought out policies like minimum distance between mills, packing in jute bags etc. causes losses.

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MISCELLANEOUS

- Most sugar mills are outdated, not efficient and have high cost of production reducing profit.
- Competition for produce by Guar and other industries causes losses to mills.
- Monoculture growth of sugarcane with drop in yield after 3 years cycle.
- Short Crushing Season with rapid loss of produce or delays in crushing.
- Regional imbalance in distribution and location of mills.
- High arrears and subsequent need for bailout by mills where unions often prevent proper functioning.

These issues have prompted a relief package of 7000 crore to deal with the crisis. However a long term solution is needed. Reduction in GST on ethanol, sugar cess, subsidy on production, contract farming, stable export regime, reform in labour laws, allowing mills to own land for production, rationalisation of FRP in line with sugar prices and avoiding unscientific SAP.

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Further, govt. should provide tax incentives to intrepreneurs for incorporation of new tech in the mills and create a conducive environment for ~~an~~ reforming and de-regulating this industry.

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17. NAPCC, almost 10 years old and formulated with lofty objectives, has not served as the best answer to cope with the impacts of climate change. Critically discuss. **(250 words) 15**

लगभग 10 वर्ष पुराने और उत्कृष्ट लक्ष्यों के साथ सूत्रबद्ध, NAPCC ने जलवायु परिवर्तन के प्रभावों का सामना करने संबंधी सर्वोत्तम अनुक्रिया के रूप में कार्य नहीं किया है। आलोचनात्मक चर्चा कीजिए।

In 2008, the global environmental movement was at its peak. With regular UNFCCC meetings, implementation of Kyoto Protocol etc. India was well aware of the threats posed by anthropogenic climate change.

In that environment the govt. formulated the National Action Plan on Climate Change.

It had various missions under it :-

- National Solar Mission
- National Water Mission.
- National Mission for Green India.
- National Mission for Sustainable Agriculture.
- National Mission for Enhanced Energy Efficiency.
- National Mission for Himalaya Ecosystem Conservation.
- National Mission on Sustainable Habitat.
- National Mission on Strategic knowledge on Climate Change.

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Successes

- Mainstreamed mitigation and adaption measures across govt. policy
- Success in certain mission like Green India, Solar mission and sustainable habitat.
- Programs like Swacch Bharat and Nirmal Ganga are derived from objectives of this.
- India has committed to even more stringent objectives as part of Paris Protocol.
- Development of International Coalitions against Climatic Change like Int. Solar Alliance.

Criticisms

- Most missions have failed to meet their objectives.
- Some mission are too broad like Green India and lack quantifiable targets.
- Relay in project clearance, conflicting policies etc.
- Absence of monitoring mechanism.
- Lack of external unbiased auditing or verification of claims.

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- Lack of market investment or involvement
- Low R&D, lack of skilled manpower and expertise slowed mission.
- Umbrella scheme lacking convergence with each other and other govt. initiatives like AMRUT.

Keeping these flaws in mind the govt. has brought out NAPCC 2.0 with 4 new missions - Waste to Energy; Health; ~~and~~ Wind and Coastal Mission. This provides an opportunity to pool indigenous ~~targets~~ and global capabilities to cope with climate change.

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18. Proliferation of nuclear weapons and the threat of their use are key concerns for global security nonetheless existing international arrangements seem to be ineffective. Comment. Also, identify the salient features of India's policy in this context and discuss whether India should join the NPT in the current form. **(250 words) 15**

परमाणु हथियारों का प्रसार और उनके उपयोग का खतरा वैश्विक सुरक्षा की प्रमुख चिंताएं हैं, इसके बिना वर्तमान अंतर्राष्ट्रीय व्यवस्था अप्रभावी प्रतीत होती है। टिप्पणी कीजिए। साथ ही, इस संदर्भ में भारत की नीति की प्रमुख विशेषताओं को चिन्हित कीजिए तथा चर्चा कीजिए कि क्या भारत को वर्तमान प्रारूप वाले NPT में सम्मिलित होना चाहिए।

Recent events like North Korea testing ballistic missiles over Japan and S. Korea or Iran's sanctions by USA show the seriousness ~~of bo~~ caused by proliferation of nuclear weapons.

The global treaty concerned with stopping proliferation is the Non Proliferation Treaty, 1975 and the group is Nuclear Suppliers Group. Though the treaty is voluntary, countries are coerced to sign it by a carrot and stick policy, with carrot being access to civilian use nuclear tech and fuel and stick being threat of sanctions and being excluded from the global nuclear tech market.

Limitations of the Current Non Proliferation Architecture

- Shortcomings with the NPT –
  - Unduly favours 5 Nuclear Weapon States who

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went nuclear before 1974.
- Excludes nuclear weapon states like India, Israel or Pakistan who in theory are free to proliferate.
- Not designed to address non state actors.
- Failed in stopping Iran or N Korea from pursuing a nuclear program.
- Discriminatory between 'nuclear haves' and 'have nots'.

- Limited Progress on Disarmaments, nuclear powers continue to stockpile weapons.
- Testing ban treaties like CTBT or Fissile material control testing haven't come in force.
- Over emphasis on horizontal proliferation fails to address vertical proliferation.
- No movement towards universal de nuclearisation.

India's policy towards it nuclear weapons has always been that of a mature and responsible power. India has emphasised its support for global, non discriminatory, & comprehensive and verifiable disarmamentation. Its nuclear doctrine is :-

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- No first use against a non nuclear weapon state.
- Maintenance of Credible Minimum Deterrence
- Nuclear Triad.
- Unilateral moratorium on testing and no technology transfer.

Reasons for joining NPT

- Access to technology and nuclear material.
- Guaranteed Access to NSG and nuclear fuel.
- If joined by Pakistan would lead to denuclearisation.
- Boost to nuclear exports through Make in India.

However NSG waivers has already granted many of these benefits to India. The disadvantages of joining NPT are manifold No check on vertical proliferation; Threat from China and Pakistan; No actual timeframe for universal disarmament etc.

India already abides by NPT norms and is recognised by the world as doing so. Joining NPT in its present form would not be to its advantage.

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19. The maritime security domain requires collective multilateral and regional cooperation to combat non traditional threats. Discuss in the context of threats in the Western Indian Ocean and the recent amendments in the Djibouti Code of Conduct.

(250 words) 15

समुद्री सुरक्षा प्रक्षेत्र (डोमेन) गैर-परंपरागत खतरों का सामना करने हेतु सामूहिक बहुपक्षीय और क्षेत्रीय सहयोग की मांग करता है। पश्चिमी हिंद महासागर में खतरों और जिबूती आचरण संहिता में हालिया संशोधन के संदर्भ में चर्चा कीजिए।

Around 90% of global trade by mass goes through the oceans making maritime security of paramount importance. It subsumes infrastructure, naval deployment, policing, open sea lanes of communication, disaster mitigation etc.

In recent times non traditional threats have plagued maritime shipping in the Western Indian Ocean (Extending from Arabian Sea to Horn of Africa):

- Piracy esp. off the Coast of Somalia.
- Illegal migration in unsafe conditions.
- Terrorism and ethnic conflict in Yemen, Somalia, Syria etc.
- Smuggling of Arms, Narcotics etc.
- Illegal fishing, smuggling etc.

Addressing these concerns requires collective multilateral action and regional cooperation.

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Initiatives like visit of Indian PM to Indian Ocean Littoral States like Oman have focussed on bilateral as well as multilateral initiatives like IORA. Programmes like IONS point at India's efforts to ensure maritime security.

Djibouti Code of Conduct (DCoC) was adopted in 2009 agreed to cooperate on suppressing piracy and armed robbery on ships in the region. It has been instrumental in piracy arms and has broadened its scope to illegal fishing and human trafficking.

Jeddah Amendment is a revised code :-

- Expands scope of DCoC - aims to build national and regional capacity to address wider maritime security issues. ~~such as~~ It recognises important role of 'Blue Economy'.
- It bring together countries in the region and covers important crimes like :-
  - Trafficking in arms and narcotics
  - Illegal Wildlife Trade
  - Illegal Oil theft and bunkering.
  - Human Trafficking and smuggling.

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Thus, the DEOoC and Jeddah agreement recognise the role of institutionalised and regular procedural cooperation toward addressing non conventional threats and also issues of environmental significance.

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20. India's space programme was initiated with the vision of utilising outer space for peaceful purposes, however with changing times it has the potential to play a significant role in strengthening security capabilities of India. Discuss with adequate examples. **(250 words) 15**

भारत का अंतरिक्ष कार्यक्रम, शांतिपूर्ण उद्देश्यों हेतु बाह्य अंतरिक्ष का उपयोग करने के दृष्टिकोण के साथ आरंभ किया गया था, हालांकि बदलते समय के साथ इसमें भारत की सुरक्षा क्षमताओं को मजबूत बनाने में महत्वपूर्ण भूमिका निभाने की क्षमता है। यथोचित उदाहरणों के साथ चर्चा कीजिए।

President Trump of USA has recently announced the creation of a Space Force as the 5th branch of US Armed Forces. This shows the important strategic dimension of Space. Indian Space Programme was perceived as a quest for scientific exploration as well as an aid to its development.

ISRO focused on satellites to facilitate communication, information gathering, weather forecasting, prior information about disasters, finding resources etc.

However we need to focus on the security implication of our ~~our~~ space missions.

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Internal Security Challenges

- Weather satellite can provide critical information about when to launch operations.
- Mapping satellite can help create proper authentic maps to help perfect defence plans.
- Radar Satellites with IR or Heatmap tech can identify enemy combatants, ships, submarines or planes.
- Remote Sensing Satellite can extend reach of operational intelligence especially related to insurgent.

External Security Challenges

- Cartosat satellites can provide enhanced visuals and mapping precision which reportedly helped in the recent surgical strikes in Pakistan.
- The NaVIC programme with IRNSS would provide military service helping in Aerial, Marine and Terrestrial Navigation.
- Radar Imaging Satellites can provide radar information helping India spy on the activities of its hostile neighbours.

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- Communication Satellites help in providing 24/7 connection b/w forces and HQ. Very helpful in dynamic conflict scenarios.

Furthermore following steps can be taken :-

- Develop a comprehensive National Space Policy, keeping strategic imperative in mind.
- Armed forces should create a Space Corps of professional skilled in exploiting the myriad capabilities.
- International Collaboration for enhancing capability and technology development.
- Developing ICBM variants which can target enemy satellites.
- Increasing private participation and stimulating research in the field by collaboration with academia.
- Institutionalising a Defence Space Agency to optimise resource utilisation and synergy of efforts.

India should recognise that Space is indeed the next frontier of warfare.

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GENERAL STUDIES (TEST CODE : 1146)

Name of Candidate	Nihal Randhawa		
Medium Eng./Hindi	Eng	Registration Number	58233
Center	NA	Date	6-Sep-2018

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Q. No.	Maximum Marks	Marks Obtained
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Total Marks Obtained:

Remarks:

INSTRUCTIONS

1. Do furnish the appropriate details in the answer sheet (viz. Name, Registration Number and Test Code).
   उत्तर पुस्तिका में सूचनाएं भरना आवश्यक है (नाम, प्रश्न-पत्र कोड, विद्यार्थी क्रमांक आदि)।
2. There are **TWENTY** questions printed in **ENGLISH & HINDI**
   इसमें बीस प्रश्न हैं अंग्रेजी और हिन्दी में छपे हैं।
3. **All questions are compulsory.**
   सभी प्रश्न अनिवार्य हैं।
4. The number of marks carried by a question/part is indicated against it.
   प्रत्येक प्रश्न/भाग के अंक उसके सामने दिए गए हैं।
5. Answers must be written in the medium authorized in the Admission Certificate, which must be stated clearly on the cover of this Question-Cum-Answer (QCA) Booklet in the space provided. No marks will be given for answers written in medium other that the authorized one.
   प्रश्नों के उत्तर उसी माध्यम में लिखे जाने चाहिए जिसका उल्लेख आपके प्रवेश पत्र में किया गया है और उस माध्यम का स्पष्ट उल्लेख प्रश्न-सह-उत्तर (क्यूसीए) पुस्तिका के मुख्य पृष्ठ पर अंकित निर्दिष्ट स्थान पर किया जाना चाहिए। उल्लिखित माध्यम के अतिरिक्त अन्य किसी माध्यम में लिए गए उत्तर पर कोई अंक नहीं मिलेंगे।
6. Word limit in questions, if specified, should be adhered to.
   प्रश्नों में शब्द सीमा, जहाँ विनिर्दिष्ट है, का अनुसरण किया जाना चाहिए।
7. Any page or portion of the page left blank in the Question-Cum-Answer Booklet must be clearly struck off.
   उत्तर पुस्तिका में खाली छोड़ा हुआ पृष्ठ या उसके अंश को स्पष्ट रूप से काटा जाना चाहिए।

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1. The most powerful trend of medieval Indian literature between 1000 and 1800 A.D. is devotional (bhakti) poetry, which dominates almost all the major languages of the country. Comment. **(150 words) 10**

1000 से 1800 ई. के बीच मध्यकालीन भारतीय साहित्य की सबसे मजबूत चलन भक्तिपरक (भक्ति) कविताएं हैं, जो देश की लगभग सभी प्रमुख भाषाओं में प्रमुखता से विद्यमान हैं। टिप्पणी कीजिए।

Bhakti literature was a form of religious poetry which dominated the Indian landscape for the last millenium. It differed from the established religious model and was led by wandering ascetics who preached in the form of poetry ~~to~~ and songs to attract commoners to their message.

As a result of attracting commoners this movement was mostly in local languages instead of Sanskrit, the language of the elite. These local languages depended on the region and often, like in case of Punjabi where Baba Farid is credited with founding it, led to the birth of those languages modern form.

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Some prominent examples are :-

- Tamil Nadu was where the movement started and moved northwards.
- Marathi, short poetic narratives were used Tukkaram was a prominent saint.
- Baba Nanak preached in Punjabi and his version of Bhakti eventually led to birth of Sikhism.
- Kabir, Mirabai, Surdas etc. preached in languages akin to Hindi and eventually those languages led to Hindi
- In kannada saint-writers like Basavanna enriched the languages and introduced variants of Hinduism in Lingayat sect.

Thus, Bhakti poetry phenomenon was pan India and ~~truly~~ despite being regional in character truly united India.

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2. The Siddhanta or mathematical astronomy tradition has been the dominant stream of mathematics in India, with an essentially continuous tradition that flourished for close to a thousand years, starting from about the third or fourth century AD. Elaborate. **(150 words) 10**

लगभग तीसरी या चौथी शताब्दी ईस्वी से आरंभ होकर तथा एक अनिवार्यतः अविच्छिन्न परंपरा के रूप में लगभग एक हजार वर्षों तक फलने-फूलने वाली, सिद्धांत या गणितीय खगोल विज्ञान की परंपरा भारत में गणित की प्रमुख धारा रही है। सविस्तार वर्णन कीजिए।

Ancient India had always been an astronomically curious culture. With many religious rites and ceremonies centered around the position of the planets or phenomena lik solar or lunar eclipses a greater understanding of astronomy was born. This was reflected in Siddhanta tradition which combined mathematics and astronomy.

In the Golden Age of Gupta India, this tradition can be said to have begun. Aryabhatta, for more precise astronomical understanding and prediction worked in fields as varied as digits of π, quadratic equations, trigonometry and

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solar and lunar eclipse. Brahmagupta in the 6th century CE is said to have invented zero. Bhaskara I in the same period expanded on the works of Aryabhata is the fields of quadratic equations and trigonometry. Bhaskara II in the 10th century CE gave proof of the Pythagorean theorem and even conceived of differential calculus.

Even after this period new discoveries and commentaries on the ancient works continued. Other civilisations like Arab or Chinese came to India and translated these texts and disseminated the information.

The legacy of Siddhanta continues in India with the naming of satellites launched by ISRO as tribute to Aryabhatta.

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3. The Railway system was built not for the modernization of India, but to serve the imperial, colonial and strategic objectives of the British. Examine. (150 words) 10

रेलवे प्रणाली को भारत के आधुनिकीकरण के लिए नहीं, अपितु अंग्रेजों के साम्राज्यवादी, औपनिवेशिक एवं सामरिक उद्देश्यों की पूर्ति करने हेतु निर्मित किया गया था। परीक्षण कीजिए।

The 1st railway line was laid down in British India in 1830 from Bombay to Thane. Thereafter the pace of installation increased at an exponential rate. The reasons behind the railway system were:-

- To source raw materials from hinterland of India to the ports and then to Britain.
- To expand market for finished goods from Britain in India.
- These factors ensured that Indigenous industry was destroyed in India.
- As a place for excess British investment to be used with guaranteed returns paid for by tax revenue in India.
- It would help in rapid mobilisation and transport of troops to help secure the borders and to quell internal rebellion.

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- Thus, it like the Telegraph and later Telephone helped ~~to~~ British imperial designs of effectively ruling India.

However there were certain unintended positives:-

- It brought people living far away in contact, generating a sense of nationhood.
- It helped Indian traders and businessmen in expanding their market.
- It helped mass leaders and politicians to disseminate their message.
- It brought different regions into closer contact and aided modernisation.
- It helped in employment.

The Railways can ultimately be considered a blessing in disguise.

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4. "In many senses Rabindra Nath Tagore and Mahatma Gandhi thought about education in similar ways. There were, however, differences too." Elucidate. **(150 words) 10**

"कई अर्थों में रवींद्रनाथ टैगोर और महात्मा गांधी शिक्षा के बारे में एक जैसा सोचते थे। हालाँकि, उनमें अंतर भी थे।" स्पष्ट कीजिए।

Both Mahatma Gandhi and Rabindranath Tagore believed in education as a tool to help an individual grow to his full potential and as a means to liberate the masses. This substantive model went beyond mere literacy.

Gandhiji's Views

He was against the western model imposed by the British as he felt this made Indians feel inferior. He wanted to combine education with religion and ethics and felt that Indian languages instead of English should be the medium.

Tagore's Views

He wanted a holistic education model combining science, arts, literature etc.

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He wanted creativity instead of the rigidity of discipline. His school Shanti Niketan is the best example of his vision.

Similarities

- Both believed in the liberating potential of education at personal and societal level.
- They both were against western model imposed on India.
- Both emphasised mother tongue.

Differences

- Gandhiji was against western education science, technology etc. whereas Tagore taught those subjects.
- Tagore integrated best practices of western education and literature whereas Gandhiji wanted a traditional guru shishya model.

However we can see that both thinkers were influenced by their own experiences and their ideas had both similarities and differences

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5. While to some the abolition of the Privy Purses was a "historical necessity", to others, it was "betrayal of a promise". Examine in the context of the abolition of Privy Purses in 1971. (150 words) 10

एक ओर जहाँ कुछ व्यक्तियों के लिए प्रिवी पर्स का उन्मूलन एक "ऐतिहासिक आवश्यकता" थी, वहीं दूसरी ओर अन्य लोगों के लिए यह "एक वादे के प्रति विश्वासघात" था। 1971 में प्रिवी पर्स के उन्मूलन के संदर्भ में परीक्षण कीजिए।

Privy purses are annual pensions granted to the erstwhile rulers of Princely States in British India who agreed to accede to the Indian Union in 1947. Along with some rights like hunting or titles, the these were granted to them and their descendants by the Indian Government and even entered into the Constitution..

In 1971, as part of a broad move towards socialism and reducing inequality Indira Gandhi abolished them by amendment

Reasons For Abolishment

- They went against the constitutional norms of equality.
- They were inherently arbitrary and medieval being based on accident of birth.

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- The wealth surrendered by rulers was actually wealth of their ~~citizens~~ subjects and not personal.
- It led to perpetuation of a feudal and unequal social culture.

Arguments Against Abolition

- It was betrayal of a solemn promise.
- It made the other promises made by the Indian govt. seem hollow and led to a general distrust of the govt. stand on principles over populism.
- The princes had by and large been positive agents in their dealings, avoiding bloodshed by peaceful integration and later on serving India by acting as ambassadors, governors etc. This was needless provocation.

The rationale for not having privileges based on birth is sound and the scheme itself had provisions for reduction. Thus, abolishing it was an idea whose time had come.

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6. Even though fought away from its shores, the Korean War saw a close involvement of India. Discuss. (150 words) 10

यद्यपि कोरियाई युद्ध भारत के समुद्रतट से दूर लड़ा गया था, किन्तु इसमें भारत की घनिष्ठ संलग्नता देखी गयी थी। चर्चा कीजिए।

After WW II USSR and its allies had control of korea upto the 38th Precint and USA led groups from that till the sea.

While the hope was for democratic election to take place, ideological war broke out between communism and capitalism soon followed by actual conflict in 1950.

South korea, pro west and supported by USA, UK etc. against North korea, Communist and supported by China, USSR fought. India was neutral or more accurately allied to both sides in the conflict.

India was a member of the UN commission set up to oversee elections in 1947. When war broke out it condemned N korea as the aggressor but didn't back US military action. It sent a medical ship as a humanitarian gesture.

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India's role during the conflict was a mediatory one. It oversaw the conduct of both militaries and reported any violation of international warfare law.

Both sides ceased fighting in 1953 and led to the present borders of North and South Korea. The India sponsored resolution was accepted for this.

This ~~was~~ conduct was criticised by the West for being too favourable to Communism.

However, the war elevated India's position in the world and gave a boost to its non-alignment strategy.

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7. What was the Balfour Declaration? Why is it considered to be a significant factor in shaping the course of conflict in West Asia? (150 words) 10

बाल्फोर घोषणा क्या थी? इसे पश्चिम एशिया में संघर्ष की दिशा तय करने वाले एक महत्वपूर्ण कारक के रूप में क्यों माना जाता है?

Due to intransigent riots by Jews in the first century AD, the Roman Empire had ethnically cleansed the Palestine region of Jews and forced them to settle elsewhere. The Zionist movement was a 20th century movement for creation of a Jewish state back in Israel ~~with~~ in accord with Old Testament Prophecies.

The Balfour declaration indicated British support for Zionism in 1917 and was significant as control of West Asia was very contested at the time. The Arabs demanded independence from Ottomans and bitterly opposed Zionism, Palestines wanted self rule and other major powers like France

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wanted colonies.
The British facilitated immigration of Jews there which led to ethnic strife. Post WWII when the area was under UN administration, de facto British rule, they pushed for the creation of Israel which just after creation was attacked by 6 Arab nations.

Regional conflicts have been on going since. Moreover the Palestine Arabs have been pushed into small strips of autonomous territories in Gaza Strip and West Bank.

The legacy has been an increasingly unsettled situation in West Asia, where none of Israel's neighbours even acknowledge the state.

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8. Globalization is a double-edged sword, which on one hand ensures economic growth but on the other hand, assaults national sovereignty, erodes local culture and threatens economic and social instability. Critically examine the statement in context of Indian society. (150 words) 10

वैश्वीकरण एक दोधारी तलवार है, जो एक ओर आर्थिक संवृद्धि को सुनिश्चित करता है, किन्तु दूसरी ओर यह राष्ट्रीय संप्रभुता पर हमला करता है, स्थानीय संस्कृति को विनष्ट करता है तथा आर्थिक और सामाजिक स्थिरता के लिए खतरा उत्पन्न करता है। भारतीय समाज के संदर्भ में इस कथन का आलोचनात्मक परीक्षण कीजिए।

Globalisation is the deepening of, widening and speeding up of global interconnectivity driven by trade, technology and movement of people rendering time and geographical barriers immaterial.

Effect on Economy

Globalisation is linked to Capitalism, Free markets, free movement of goods and services etc. Based on the principle of comparative advantage it has led to growth in global trade and productivity. In India we have witnessed unprecedented rate of GDP and GNI growth.

However it has also increased global inequalities, both intra and inter country.

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Effect on Sovereignity

Global institution driving globalisation like WTO or IMF are not democratic institution.

They impose laws and condition on member states to standardise norms across the globe. Issues like Subsidies, IPR laws impact sovereignity of countries.

This has led to backlash with election of protectionist leaders and policies. Like Trump's Trade Wars or UK's Brexit.

Effect on Culture and Society

Globalisation has exported cultures across the globe along with facilitating movement of people. It has also led to homogenisation of culture with western norms dominating.

Due to the interconnectedness crises in one part of the world are reflected in economic instability elsewhere (2008 Subprime Crisis leading to global depression). The concentration of wealth and immigration leads to societal instability.

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9. The relegation of women to private sphere of life is the main cause behind gender inequality and exploitation in India. Discuss. (150 words) 10

महिलाओं को जीवन के निजी क्षेत्र तक सीमित करना, भारत में लैंगिक असमानता और शोषण के पीछे मुख्य कारण है। चर्चा कीजिए।

Gender Inequality is socially sanctioned discrimination on the basis of gender.

It has its roots in cultural norms built through history, religion, climate and geography. In the Indian context the patriarchal society had different roles ~~rules~~ for men and women where women were relegated to the private sphere.

Traditionally women have been confined to homes through compulsary domesticity. Their roles as mothers and housewives meant that they had no place in public life. Women didn't get an education, profession or business.

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Depriving women of education has led to their poor standards in literacy in modern times. ~~Women~~ Girl education is still subordinate to Boy education. This leads to them not getting jobs, loss of financial autonomy leaves them dependent on husbands.

These tendencies are then stereotyped and employers don't employ women as they feel that they will prioritise family life more. Women have to suffer Gender Pay Gap and have less representation at the top of various fields because of time off due to childbirth.

However, with feminism, gender equal laws and societal change the gender inequality is reducing. Women have greater access to quality healthcare, education and job opportunities.

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10. Growing 'informalization of labour market' is perceived as a barrier to realising economic potential as well as a hindrance to longrun economic development and poverty reduction. Discuss. **(150 words) 10**

श्रम बाज़ार के बढ़ते अनौपचारीकरण' को आर्थिक संभाव्यता को साकार करने में एक अवरोध के साथ-साथ दीर्घकालिक आर्थिक विकास तथा गरीबी न्यूनीकरण में एक व्यवधान के रूप में देखा जाता है। चर्चा कीजिए।

The Informal market/economy is that which is outside of government purview and attendant regulations on labour, employee welfare, minimum wage, taxation etc. The labour market in India is increasingly getting informalised. around 80% of the labour force (acc. to NSSO) is in the informal segment.

The drawbacks of this are :-

- They deal in black money and increase size of parallel economy. This gives birth to money laundering, tax evasion etc.
- The employee benefits given by law like Pension schemes, EPFO, healthcare insurance, minimum wage etc. are not given.
- They exploit their workers in terms of working hours, safety laws and other regulations.

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- They waste the potential of the human resource by tying them up in low skill and productivity sectors.
- These lack job security.
  Thus these exacerbate the inequalities in society, increase poverty and reduce future growth potential.

The reasons for growing informalisation are:-

- Stringent labour laws, which necessitate contract labour.
- Tax evasion possibility.
- Lack of Formal Jobs in Public and Pvt. Sector.
- Government officials either turn a blind eye or collude with corruption
- Illiterate and poorly skilled labour force.

The govt. has recently been taking steps to curb this lik: GST enactment; Voluntary Tax Disclosure; Demonetisation; Skill India; Entrepreneurship facilitation measures (Stand up India); Make in India etc.

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11. Buddhism not only enriched Indian philosophy but also left an indelible imprint on ancient Indian art and architecture. Explain with adequate examples. **(250 words) 15**

बौद्ध धर्म ने न केवल भारतीय दर्शन को समृद्ध किया बल्कि प्राचीन भारतीय कला एवं स्थापत्य पर एक अमिट छाप भी छोड़ी। यथोचित उदाहरणों के साथ व्याख्या कीजिए।

Buddhism emerged in 6th century BC at a time of great intellectual churning in India. Philosphies like Upanishads, Ascetics, Jainism, Ajivikyas and Buddhism vied with each other. Among these Buddhism left an indelible mark on Indian Philosphy:

- Buddhism advocated the middle path, rejecting the extremes of the forest going ascetics who propounded measures like starvation or physical pain.
- Buddhism rejected the Vedas, freeing Indian thought from adherence to a set of beliefs. (Nastika)
- Buddha rejected God and became a prominent Nastika Philosopher.
- Buddhist political tradition of a virtuous, just and moral king (like Ashoka) rejected the 'ends justify the means' Machiavellian king of Kautilya's Arthashastra.

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- He rejected suffering and his method of rejecting material joy and desires was novel.
- Buddha rejected the idea of a permanent soul and gave a radical formulation of Karma which became a prominent discourse.

Buddhist Contributions to Art & Architecture

- Buddhists initiated the idea of temples and monasteries. Viharas were temporary rests in Caves during monsoon season and led to formation of Chaityas (Worship Places).

Eg. Rock Cut Caves are Barabar Caves (Oldest), Eg. Ajanta Caves. Eg of Monasteries are Nalanda.

- Buddhist Stupas were among the 1st stone based buildings erected over relics of Buddha eg. Ashoka made Sanchi Stupa or renovated Bodh Gaya.
- Buddhist statues were made in different regions eg. Gandhara, Mathura etc.
- Pictoral representations of Jataka tales and symbolic representation of scenes from Buddha's life were carved on the outer ~~edges~~ walls of Stupas.

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- Buddhism led to development of ~~Pratrita~~ Prakrit language initially as a means to connect with the locals. Many forms of literature such as poems, morality tales, songs etc. were composed in that language.
- Wall paintings and Frescoes in Ajanta Caves.

Thus we can see that Buddhism has had a massive influence on the land of its birth and has spread that influence to regions as varied as China, Japan, Thailand, Afghanistan etc.

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12. Most of the protests, revolts and movements launched by the peasants against British policies grew out of local grievances, remained localised and had no regular organisation and leadership. Discuss with examples.
(250 words) 15

ब्रिटिश नीतियों के विरुद्ध किसानों द्वारा आरंभ किए गए अधिकतर विरोध-प्रदर्शन, विद्रोह और आंदोलन स्थानीय शिकायतों से उत्पन्न हुए थे, ये स्थानीय ही बने रहे तथा इनका न तो कोई नियमित संगठन था और न ही नेतृत्व। उदाहरणों के साथ चर्चा कीजिए।

The British Imperial Rule on India was particularly brutal on the farmers. High rents, taxes, zamindari rule, commercial agriculture, droughts, moneylending issues etc. led to justified outrage and frequent protests.

19th Century

- Protests were localised, spontaneous and precipitated by a single issue.
- Protests weren't focussed against colonialism or the British. They would focus on a single issue for eg. Indigo Revolt against foreign traders' exploitative tactics to grow Indigo in contracted lands at exploitatively low prices instead of food crops.

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- Revolts sometimes were even against Indians, like moneylender revolt in Deccan after collapse of cotton prices.
- The territoreal reach was limited. Eg. Deccan riots confined to cotton growing belt.
- To sumup, ~~these~~ this phase was one of frustration boiling over but because they lacked understanding of how colonialism was responsible for their woes no lasting relief was found.

20th Century

- With the onset of Swadeshi movement and growth of anti colonial mindset there was a shift in the struggles.
- Leaders like Dadabhai Naoroji had shown by 'Drain Theory' how colonial rule was impoverishing India. This meant that farmer movements had a bigger target.

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- Gandhiji integrated farmer struggles in the broader movement. For eg. Champaran Satyagraha was a test for Satyagraha strategies
- During Non Cooperation movement and Civil Disobedience Movement there was active farmer involvement. Gandhiji also ensured that the struggle was against British by asking that tax need not be paid but the rent owed to Zamindar be paid.
- All India Kisan Sabhas were organised both under and outside the Congress with peasant leaders emerging, movements like Eka movement took place

Thus, we can see the profound shift in method and success of these movements. Indeed in the Post Independence Era, the energy generated by these movements led to land redistribution, abolition of Zamindari, land ceiling acts and land tenancy reforms.

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13. Indian nationalism arose when the contradiction between the aims and objectives of the British rule and the interests of Indians became clear and obvious. In this context, elaborate on the role played by the intelligentsia in the growth of nationalism. **(250 words) 15**

भारतीय राष्ट्रवाद का उद्भव तब हुआ जब ब्रिटिश राज के लक्ष्यों और उद्देश्यों तथा भारतीयों के हितों के मध्य के विरोधाभास स्पष्ट और दृष्टिगोचर होने लग गए। इस संदर्भ में, राष्ट्रवाद के विकास में बुद्धिजीवियों द्वारा निर्वाह की गई भूमिका का सविस्तार वर्णन कीजिए।

Nationalism is a phenomenon which emerged in Europe with the ~~growth~~ end of monarchy and the growth of democracy and the concept of general will and popular sovereignty. A nation is a collection of people who feel they belong together due to shared history, ethnicity, culture, language, religion etc.

By the 19th century India was not considered a nation because of its diversity. However the leaders of the freedom struggle laid the groundwork for nationalism by :-

- Economic exploitation was exposed. Drain theories given by Dadabhai Naoroji, RC Dutts explained the negative effects of British rule.

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- Reformers like Ishwar Chandra Vidyasagar and Ram Mohan Roy cleaned hinduism of its regressive practices like Sati and Widow remarriage bans.
- Reformist movements like Arya Samaj led to a more inclusive religion and created a fraternal feeling.
- Aurobindo Ghose inspired by Swami Vivekananda gave the theory of Cultural Nationalism. He argued that India was as like a soul that lived in the subcontinent and manifested through a shared culture, epics like Ramayana and Mahabharata; bhakti saints; Vedas and Upanishad; sacred rivers; Maths of AdiShankacharya etc.
- VD Savarkar wrote about 1st war of Independence to change narrative of it as a Sepoy Mutiny and awaken militant pride.
- Use of newspapers and magazines. Almost every prominent national leader had

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his own magazine and publication. Eg Gandhi has Young India and Harijan. Through this they could reach the masses and awaken consciousness and mobilise support.

- Swadeshi movement and Swaraj increased interdependence and economic ties within different parts of India. Railways and jobs and labour migration too played a role.

Thus, we can see that the British act of educating the middle and upper class in British education didn't have the effect of creating a loyal base but the effect of creating a class of Indians who led the intellectual war for freedom.

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14. Partition was a culmination of a communal politics that started developing in the opening decades of the twentieth century. Comment.

(250 words) 15

विभाजन सांप्रदायिक राजनीति की चरम परिणति थी जो बीसवीं शताब्दी के प्रारंभिक दशकों में विकसित होने लगी थी। टिप्पणी कीजिए।

The British consolidated their rule in India by divide and rule policies. Post 1857 muting they were scared of Hindu Muslim Unity and wanted to forestall this in the future.

To this end they reshaped the army only ~~so~~ hiring 'martial races' like Sikhs and Gurkhas who were minorities ~~Seen the~~ As they were mistrustful of Muslims at this point Hindus started to be given preference in jobs. Some Muslim leaders like Sir Syed Ahmed were alarmed. They encouraged muslims to be loyal to the crown as a way of earning trust and access to jobs and resources so that their community is developed.

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- This process was excerbated by Hindi-Urdu Controversy at which point the 2 nation theory took birth. Hindus and Muslims are 2 separate people who can't live together.
- The British stoked this flame by dividing Bengal in 1905 on religious grounds. This was vigorously opposed but the usage of Hindu cultural symbols and festivals (Bal Gangadhar Tilak with Ganesh Pooja) alarmed ~~th~~ some muslims.
- The muslim league was formed in 1907.
- The 1909 Morley Minto reforms introduced seperate communal electorates. Muslims could now stand in reserved constituencies where only muslims would vote for them. This excarcebated seperatism ideology.
- There was a brief reapproachment with signing of Lucknow Pact in 1917 and Khilafat movement jointly launched by Congress and Muslim League but events like

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Moppila riots stopped that.

- The Hindu Mahasabha and RSS were formed in 1920's to counter communal moves by communal politics of their own.
- Events like Cow protection, mosque music, temple desecration sharply divided the 2 religions.
- The Muslim League formally put forward demand for Pakistan. They wanted independence for muslim majority regions in Bengal and Punjab along with any Princely States. They used violence in form of Direct Action Day and the elections of 1945 to legitimise their demands.

Thus, we can see the inevitable spread of communism in India, fanned by the British which ultimately led to formation of Pakistan and then Bangladesh

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15. The isolation of the region, its complex social character and its backwardness have all resulted in a complicated set of demands from different states of the North-East since independence. Discuss.

(250 words) 15

इस क्षेत्र के अलगाव, इसकी जटिल सामाजिक प्रकृति और इसके पिछड़ेपन की परिणति स्वतंत्रता के उपरांत से ही उत्तर-पूर्व के विभिन्न राज्यों के द्वारा मांगों के एक जटिल समुच्चय के रूप में हुई। चर्चा कीजिए।

North East India is ~~consid~~ the region comprising of 8 states; Sikkim; Assam; Meghalaya; Manipur; Arunachal Pradesh; Nagaland; Mizoram and Tripura. They have faced many problems like lack of development; insurgency; terrorism; border conflicts; natural disasters; isolation; racism; illegal immigration etc. since Independence.

Isolation of the Region

For ~~t~~ Sikkim the route the NE is through a narrow corridor barely 30km long called Siliguri Corridor or Chicken Neck of India. Lack of adequate rail network and roadways is the cause of isolation along with minimal

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albeit subsidised air transport.

Complex Social Character

The region has great diversity. More than 200 different tribal groups, languages, customs, religions (Hinduism, Christianity and Animism majorly). Moreover this region has seen demographic change due to refugees coming from Tibet, Bangladesh and Myanmar exacerbating conflicts over scant resources.

Backwardness

Due to historical reasons this area had low standards of education, industrialisation and economic growth. Compounded by terrain, weather, climate, insurgency and connectivity issues which still hamper growth potential. Tea estates are almost the only

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commercial activity besides tourism. The effect of these have been unrest and disturbances :-

- Many regions demanded more political autonomy which was met by dividing state of Assam to create new states. Constitutional Provisions like 6th schedule ensure tribal customs and laws are respected.
- Secessionist Movements like those in Nagaland and Mizoram have taken place. However there has been Nagaland Peace Accord signed recently.
- Movement against outsiders. Bangladeshi migrants have changed demographic especially in Assam. The recent implementation of NRC is a consequence of that and this issue should be tackled in a humane manner to avoid further unrest.

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16. Even though the South Americans welcomed the formulation of Monroe doctrine, it's later interpretation became a pretext for United States' intervention. Elaborate with examples. **(250 words) 15**

भले ही दक्षिण अमेरिकियों ने मुनरो सिद्धांत के निरूपण का स्वागत किया, किन्तु इसकी पश्चात्वर्ती व्याख्या संयुक्त राज्य के हस्तक्षेप के लिए बहाना बन गई। उदाहरणों के साथ सविस्तार वर्णन कीजिए।

The Monroe doctrine was a foreign policy doctrine made by US President James Monroe in 1823. He essentially demarcated the New World and the Old World and said that the US considers Americas to be within its zone of influence and that no european power is to interfere here. In return the US will not intervene in Europe.

This was a bold move at a time when there were still many political interests and colonies of the old European powers in American Continents Eg French in Haiti, Spain ~~in~~ ~~Cuba~~ etc.

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This move was welcomed by the South Americans and Central Americans, newly independent countries. They felt that the doctrine would guarantee protection against colonisation and military intervention by the european powers. The success could be seen by Venezuela taking US protection against Spanish action

However the fears of a few countries came true with the addition of 'Big Stick' to the doctrine wherein the US could protect its financial and commercial interest by intervening militarily in the internal affairs of these countries. Events like the Panama Canal intervention or intervention on behest of Banana Corp. showcased the

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The advent of Communism marked the true misuse of the doctrine. US forces often overthrew elected govt. because they were socialist like in Chile and installed authoritarian dictators (Pinochet).

They sought to intervene in Cuban affairs (Bay of Pigs invasion and Cuban Missile Crisis) to overthrow USSR supported Castro.

Ironically what started as a noble gesture against colonialism soon became a way to guarantee neo colonialism.

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17. Events in West Asia and Afghanistan in the year 1979 had a deep impact on the politics of the region with long lasting significance. Examine.
(250 words) 15

वर्ष 1979 में पश्चिम एशिया और अफगानिस्तान में घटित घटनाक्रमों का क्षेत्र की राजनीति पर गंभीर प्रभाव पड़ा, जिसका दीर्घकालिक महत्व था। परीक्षण कीजिए।

1979 was a watershed year in the history of West Asia and Afghanistan.

The 1st event was the Iranian revolution which overthrew the Shah. The Shah was installed in Iran by a CIA coup in 1940's as a way to safeguard British Oil interests which the then democratically elected govt. wanted to nationalise.
The deeply ~~of~~ unpopular Shah was deposed by a hard right led movement of Islamists who installed the Ayotallah Khomeini as the ultimate ruler in Iran. The religious govt. rejected outside influence and antagonised the West who

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imposed sanctions on the country. Iran being a Shia country antagonized the Sunni led Saudi Arabia and Israel (Whom Iran has vowed to destroy). This has created an geopolitical instability in the region as evidenced by recent events. Proxy wars in Syria and Yemen, Pro Iran govt. in Lebanon, Houthis and Hezbollah, nuclear and ballistic missile development etc.

The other major event was Soviet occupation of Afghanistan. Soviets invaded to install a communist govt. but the US and Pakistan used non state actors in Taliban to fuel an insurgency. The Saudis too supported with money while Pakistan and US gave arms support.

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The impact of this can be seen today in ongoing conflict in Afghanistan. It legitimised terrorism strategy of Pakistan which has hurt India in J&K and Punjab. Afghanistan became a lawless failed state and launch pad for various terrorist attacks like 9/11.

Thus, we can still feel the repercussions of events that transpired in the fateful year of 1979.

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18. Luddite rebellion was one of the reactions to the negative fallouts of the industrial revolution. Elucidate. **(250 words) 15**

लडाइट विद्रोह औद्योगिक क्रांति के नकारात्मक परिणामों के प्रति प्रतिक्रियाओं में से एक था। स्पष्ट कीजिए।

The Luddites were a bunch of industrial labourers who realised that the invention of the Spinning Jenny, a yarn ~~se~~ threading machine threatened their livelihood. They went on a rampage across cities in UK and broke these machines where they could do so.

This was just one of the negative reactions to Industrialisation :-

- Mass migration to cities from villages.
- Unhygienic living conditions and inhumane working conditions.
- Growth of Utopian Socialism (Robert Owen) and Communism (Marx).
- Legislation such as factory acts.

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- The negative effect of industrialisation were :-
- Lowering of avg. life span.
- Rise in epidemics of cholera, dengue etc.
- Rise in lifestyle diseases like Asthma.
- Increased pollution and lower quality of life.
- Glaring social and economic inequalities.

The change in Social Profile was permanent, workers had shifted to cities and left alternate forms of employment in farms. Even women and children worked.

Workers feared that the machines would take their jobs leaving them penniless and starving.

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The govt. took many methods to stop it like banning protests, increasing workplace security etc.

However the fact is Luddite revolution was not anti technology. They were only destroying new machines and was a reaction against their pitiful working conditions.

The enactment of minimum working wages, labour standards, sundays off etc. can be seen as a response to legitimate concerns.

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19. While on one hand, urbanization is creating potential for social integration and economic opportunity, on the other hand, it is also leading to segregation and exclusion based on socio-economic status. Examine the paradox in context of Indian cities. What steps can be taken to make urban space truly inclusive? **(250 words) 15**

जहाँ एक ओर शहरीकरण सामाजिक एकीकरण और आर्थिक अवसर की संभावनाएं सृजित कर रहा है, वहीं दूसरी ओर यह सामाजिक-आर्थिक अवस्थिति पर आधारित अलगाव और अपवर्जन को भी बढ़ावा दे रहा है। भारतीय शहरों के संदर्भ में इस विरोधाभास का परीक्षण कीजिए। शहरी क्षेत्रों को वास्तविक रूप से समावेशी बनाने हेतु क्या कदम उठाए जा सकते हैं?

As a country develops urbanisation automatically take place. Urbanisation can be the movement of immigrants from rural to urban areas as well as the transformation of rural to urban areas. In India urbanisation is such that we are expected to have 40% of population to be urban by 2030.

Potential for Social Integration and Economic Opportunity

- Urban areas break down caste, region, language barriers as everyone is new there.
- Modernisation reduces hold of regressive customs and practices.

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- Cities contribute massively to the economy.
- Cities ~~&~~ have greater potential for social mobility and education, skilling and employment opportunities.

Urbanisation Causing Social Exclusion

- Cities break down traditional support systems of family and community.
- This alienation can cause psychological disease and mental issues.
- Cities exacerbate divide between rich and ~~poor~~ poor and social and economic inequalities rise.
- Migrant workers face exclusion on basis of not knowing the language or due to Xenophobia by residents

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- Cities might reduce effect of caste, but class based divides increase.
- Due to unplanned growth slums are made. This leads to perpetuation of poverty as healthcare, education, etc. problems limit the opportunity for poor to escape this cycle.

Steps to Ensure Inclusivity

- Greater powers and responsibility being devolved to Urban Local Bodies
- Govt. schemes like Housing for All being implemented.
- Provision of affordable quality healthcare and education for all.
- Better proactive city planning.
- Smart citiesque measures to be taken

This is a way we can truly translate India's economic growth to social growth.

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20. The focus on risk factors that appear at a young age and timely interventions is the key to preventing child delinquency and its escalation into chronic criminality. Analyse the statement with respect to growing incidences of child delinquency in context of India. **(250 words) 15**

कम उम्र में दिखाई पड़ने वाले जोखिम कारकों पर ध्यान तथा समय पर हस्तक्षेप बाल अपराध एवं उनके बढ़कर स्थायी अपराधी बनने के निवारण की कुंजी है। भारत के संदर्भ में बाल अपराध की बढ़ती घटनाओं के परिप्रेक्ष्य में इस कथन का विश्लेषण कीजिए।

Juvenile delinquency is when a Child (under 18 yrs of age) comes into conflict with the law. They are treated more leniently than adult offenders and focus is on rehabilitation than punishment.

Recently incidents like Nirbhaya case have increased focus on juvenile delinquency cases, NCRB data shows an increase in number and seriousness of these cases.

In that light we have to look at causes of these crimes :-

- Broken homes, homes where there is a culture of violence, abuse and neglect. For instance many rapists

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imbibe regressive ideas about women here.

- Poverty causes lack of opportunities to lead a fulfilling life.
- Peer group factor.
- Lack of education.
- Mental issues and disorders which are undiagnosed and not treated.
- ~~this~~ Emotional issues. Adolescents are unable to maturely handle their emotions
- Lack of job opportunities and a place in society.

If we don't address causal factors then only strict policing can't deter them sufficiently. However some measures which should be taken are :-

- **Prevention**
- Need to combat these known conditions causing delinquency at

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the local level by sensitising teachers and parents.

- Establishing Child Guidance Clinics and Counsellors at every school.
- Spotting symptoms of mental disorders early and giving apt treatment

Rehabilitation

- It was observed that sending offenders to prison turns them into hardened criminals and repeat offender, instead they should be sent to counselling and skill learning centres.
- Reformation and not retribution should be the aim.

Child delinquency stems from a multitude of factors, but the fact remains that spotting the problem early and addressing it is the best possible action.

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GENERAL STUDIES (TEST CODE : 1147)

Name of Candidate	Nihal Randhawa		
Medium Eng./Hindi	English	Registration Number	58233
Center	N/A	Date	28-Aug-2019

INDEX TABLE		
Q. No.	Maximum Marks	Marks Obtained
1	10	
2	10	
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12	15	
13	15	
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16	15	
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18	15	
19	15	
20	15	

Total Marks Obtained:

Remarks:

INSTRUCTIONS

1. Do furnish the appropriate details in the answer sheet (viz. Name, Registration Number and Test Code).
   उत्तर पुस्तिका में सूचनाएं भरना आवश्यक है (नाम, प्रश्न-पत्र कोड, विद्यार्थी क्रमांक आदि)।
2. There are **TWENTY** questions printed in **ENGLISH & HINDI**
   इसमें बीस प्रश्न हैं अंग्रेजी और हिन्दी में छपे हैं।
3. **All questions are compulsory.**
   सभी प्रश्न अनिवार्य हैं।
4. The number of marks carried by a question/part is indicated against it.
   प्रत्येक प्रश्न/भाग के अंक उसके सामने दिए गए हैं।
5. Answers must be written in the medium authorized in the Admission Certificate, which must be stated clearly on the cover of this Question-Cum-Answer (QCA) Booklet in the space provided. No marks will be given for answers written in medium other that the authorized one.
   प्रश्नों के उत्तर उसी माध्यम में लिखे जाने चाहिए जिसका उल्लेख आपके प्रवेश पत्र में किया गया है और उस माध्यम का स्पष्ट उल्लेख प्रश्न-सह-उत्तर (क्यूसीए) पुस्तिका के मुख्य पृष्ठ पर अंकित निर्दिष्ट स्थान पर किया जाना चाहिए। उल्लिखित माध्यम के अतिरिक्त अन्य किसी माध्यम में लिए गए उत्तर पर कोई अंक नहीं मिलेंगे।
6. Word limit in questions, if specified, should be adhered to.
   प्रश्नों में शब्द सीमा, जहाँ विनिर्दिष्ट है, का अनुसरण किया जाना चाहिए।
7. Any page or portion of the page left blank in the Question-Cum-Answer Booklet must be clearly struck off.
   उत्तर पुस्तिका में खाली छोड़ा हुआ पृष्ठ या उसके अंश को स्पष्ट रूप से काटा जाना चाहिए।

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EVALUATION INDICATORS

1. Contextual Competence
2. Content Competence
3. Language Competence
4. Introduction Competence
5. Structure - Presentation Competence
6. Conclusion Competence

Overall Macro Comments / feedback / suggestions on Answer Booklet:

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.

6.

All the Best

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1. Highlighting the issues faced in BOT and EPC models of infrastructure investment, explain how HAM can address these. **(150 words) 10**

अवसंरचना निवेश के BOT एवं EPC मॉडल के समक्ष आने वाली समस्याओं पर प्रकाश डालते हुए व्याख्या कीजिए कि HAM इनका किस प्रकार समाधान कर सकता है।

BOT (Build Operate & Transfer) ~~and~~, EPC (Engineering Procurement and Construction) and HAM (Hybrid Annuity Model) are 3 different forms of Public Private Partnership models with different obligations on the public and private bodies in each.

In BOT, the private body bids for the contract where design specifications are laid out. Then they build and after recuperating costs after operation for specified time period they transfer ownership and control back to the govt.

In EPC, the private body bids, then the engineering part is the responsibility of the private org but the govt. is involved with regulation approval; land acquisition; buying equipment etc. The govt. then pays the pre decided amount to the body

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and takes ownership of the built project.

There were some flaws with both the ~~BOT~~ models

BOT	EPC
i) The pvt bodies may not be able to recoup money	i) The pvt. body has to put in all the money upfront.
ii) It's observed by the SC that the toll taxes continue even after all the money is recouped.	ii) Delays, rising land costs, equipment costs eat into the margins of the bidding party
iii) Pvt bodies ~~are~~ find it hard to clear the regulatory hurdles and land acquisition	iii) The low bids are often found to be too low to make project viable and the project gets stalled and public suffers.

As can be seen ~~HA~~ both BOT & EPC suffer from complementary issues, where in EPC major portion of the risk is on ~~EP public~~ private and ~~in HAM~~ vice versa is So HAM is a model where 40% of the funding is through BOT model and 60% through EPC. This is a best of both worlds deal as ÷

i) Govt. can help in policy regulations, regulatory ~~clear~~ compliance, land acquisition etc.
ii) Govt. can provide Viability Gap Funding.
iii) It doesn't put a sudden strain on the exchequer
iv) The public can take advantage of private ~~ss~~ sector benefits.
v) The construction of more projects can start together.
vi) Pvt. sector can recoup some portion of money through ~~tolls~~ or fees and other ~~to~~ via govt. hedging against shortfall in traffic or sudden increase in prices due to say land acquisition cost

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2. The investment rate in India has gradually declined after a historic high in the mid 2000s. Examine the reasons behind this trend. Discuss the steps required to revive investment for a sustained growth. (150 words) 10

भारत में निवेश दर, 21वीं सदी के प्रथम दशक के मध्य में एक ऐतिहासिक उछाल के उपरांत निरंतर घटती रही है। इस प्रवृत्ति के पीछे निहित कारणों का परीक्षण कीजिए। निरंतर वृद्धि हेतु निवेश को पुनर्जीवित करने के लिए आवश्यक कदमों पर चर्चा कीजिए।

Investment Rate in the economy is a predictor for the future growth prospects of the economy, in which light it's troubling that the investment rate in Indian economy hasn't touched the peaks it reached in 2000s.

Some of the reasons are:-

i) The Global Depression which started in 2008, the Sub Prime crisis from which the global economy has barely recovered.

ii) This subprime crisis has affected Indian economy too, albeit it was more insulated than others and led to a slowdown in growth.

iii) Rise of NPA (Non Performing Assets) in Indian bank balance sheets which have made them unwilling to invest in new projects.

iv) Rising inflation in the early years of this decade.

v) Complex labour laws in this country inhibiting entrepeneurs and setting up of factories.

vi) Rising environmentalism has led to scuttling major projects like POSCO plant in Odisha.

vii) The unwise regulatory tax practice of retrograde

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amendment of law in Hutch Case has made investors wary. This has led to many startups being incorporated outside India so that they can be acquired at a later date as India's complex tax laws make the global giant MNC's like Facebook or Google unwilling to deal with it.

viii) Recently strengthening of dollar, rise of protectionism and raising of bond rate of US Treasury bonds have led to global investors investing in them to the detriments of India's FPI.

The reforms needed are :-

i Reforming India's tax laws and bringing them in line with global best practices.

ii) Improving India's 'ease of doing business' by making governance more accountable and transparent, reforming the regulatory practices required to be complied with, improving the arbitration mechanism and reducing bureaucratic discretion.

iii) Reforming labour laws and land laws to make them more practical and less idealistic.

iv) Improve India's image as a destination for FDI

To these ends, initiatives like Make in India, Start up India Skill India, automatic FDI, independent Monetary Policy Committee of RBI, inflation targeting are initiatives to directly or indirectly promote growth in investment and consequently the economy.

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3. The measurement of the extent of formal sector and formal employment is yet an unsettled matter in our economy. Comment. Also, mention the steps which the government has taken to improve its extent.

(150 words) 10

औपचारिक क्षेत्रक और औपचारिक रोजगार के विस्तार का मापन हमारी अर्थव्यवस्था में अभी भी एक अनसुलझा मामला है। टिप्पणी कीजिए। साथ ही, इसके विस्तार में सुधार हेतु सरकार द्वारा उठाए गए कदमों का उल्लेख कीजिए।

The definition of Formal and Informal Sectors is a contested arena. The definition of Formal Workers as those who either pay Direct Tax at Source or are covered within a welfare benefit programme like Pension or Healthcare (EPFO etc.) by their employers is another.

However both these definitions give contradictory numbers as only a miniscule percentage of people qualify for the tax bracket that pays income tax, while before GST and Demonetisation the extent of the informal economy was unknown.

In the Economic Survey a definition of formal companies was proposed, those who have a GST number and file returns under GSTN. It is hoped that this system can provide a continuous check on the financial dealings of these firms. The problem though is compounded by the lack of timely data, as employment surveys are only conducted

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after a long time.
Nevertheless, the govt. drive towards formalisation with its myriad benefits to the economy and society as a whole has picked pace recently with measures like :-

- Measures against black money. Investigation into leaks like Panama Papers, actions against 'hawala system', DTAA agreements with tax havens like Mauritius, voluntary tax disclosure scheme (with penalty) and then demonetisation.
- Change in labour code, introducing new schemes where EPFO, NPS etc. have laid obligations upon the employers and govt. to provide social security net. Also unique labour code provided to companies nicknamed 'Aadhar for Companies' will aid formalisation.
- The GST. The structure of having GST number for intra and inter state transport of goods, input tax credit creating a chain of formal ~~emplo~~ companies, ~~needing valid supply chain to~~

According to the Economic Survey, there has been a great increase in number of hitherto informal firms registering in GST network. Even though these firms don't need to pay tax yet they are now a part of the formal economy.

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4. In the context of major challenges that have restricted industrial growth, there is need for a new industrial policy to enable the industry to fulfill its role as the engine of growth and shoulder the responsibility of adding more value and jobs. Comment. **(150 words) 10**

औद्योगिक संवृद्धि को बाधित करने वाली प्रमुख चुनौतियों के संदर्भ में, उद्योग को संवृद्धि के वाहक के रूप में अपनी भूमिका के निर्वहन एवं अधिक मूल्यवर्धन और रोजगार में वृद्धि का उत्तरदायित्व संभालने में सक्षम बनाने हेतु एक नई औद्योगिक नीति की आवश्यकता है। टिप्पणी कीजिए।

Ans 4) Industrial growth is sorely needed for India to be able to successfully fulfill the aspirations of its youthful demographic who are now transitioning from a nearly 50% employment share of agriculture to the secondary and tertiary sectors.

However it has been remarked (by the Economic Survey among others) that India's growth has been a 'jobless growth'. The manufacturing sector hasn't been able to advance as much as was hoped for.

The reasons for this are:-

- The archaic labour ~~reform~~ laws. As these laws are more onerous for larger companies (in terms of no. of employees or capital investment) they inhibit the setting up of major large scale industries or the natural growth of MSME's or Startups to a Larger Company.

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- Rising NPA's and flight of capital of FPI and FDI has made banks unwilling to invest.
- Much of the ~~to~~ jobs seekers are unemployable.
- More conducive environment in countries like Vietnam & Bangladesh for more labour intensive industries.
- Dutch disease effect of software exports (Though Minor).

- These problems can be solved by the new vision articulated in the Draft New Industrial Policy of DIPP. Its salient features are:-

- Create Global Brands out of India.
- Enhance competitiveness of Indian Industry by bringing down cost associated with regulatory compliance, power, cost of capital and loans etc.
- Focus on labour intensive sectors, textiles, leather, footwear etc.
- Setting up Digital Infrastructure.
- Improving India's 'Ease of Doing Business'.
- Taxation reforms like simplifying GST.

- Innovation and R&D, Technology transfer, University-Industry linkage, respect for IPR, simplifying the Patents Process, promoting PHD and research etc.

- Ensuring access to capital.

A comprehensive new industrial policy should be adopted to enable Industry to play its role as the engine of growth and to shoulder the responsibility of adding more value and jobs

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5. Providing social security, especially to those working in unorganised sector, is an important requirement to achieve the goal of inclusive growth. Discuss. (150 words) 10

सामाजिक सुरक्षा प्रदान करना, विशेषकर उन लोगों को जो असंगठित क्षेत्र में कार्यरत हैं, समावेशी विकास के लक्ष्य को प्राप्त करने के लिए एक महत्वपूर्ण आवश्यकता है। चर्चा कीजिए।

Inclusive Growth is one where equitable opportunities are provided and the benefits of economic growth reach all sections of society. In India (acc. to NSSO data) about 83% of all employed people are working in informal sector and face challenges like :-

- Less than minimum wage
- Poor working conditions with longer working hours.
- More incidences of poverty.

These problems highlight the necessity for providing social security not to those workers else incidents like a medical problem, unemployment, death or injury, retirement etc could lead to them slipping into destitution.

While the govt. has come up with some measures like Atal Pension Yojana, Rashtriya Swasthya Bima Yojana, National Health Protection Scheme and other schemes to cover the pension and healthcare portions of the social security not yet these schemes suffer from shortcomings :-

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- Poor design and implementation.
- Overlap b/w state and central schemes, as social security is in the concurrent list.
- Poor awareness about these schemes.
- Migrants often fall out of coverage.
- These schemes needed bank accounts which earlier most of the targetted beneficiaries lacked.

Some reforms that could be undertaken are :-

- Effective implementation of existing laws and schemes.
- Formalisation of the economy.
- Universal Health Insurance Scheme (like NHPS)
- Exploring out of the box solutions like Universal Basic Income.
- Increasing Financial Literacy and targetting financial schemes at the unorganised sector.
- Aadhar and JAM trinity based direct benefits transfer to be incorporated in policy design.

These proposals would require budgetary and political capital to be allocated so that India's growth can truly 'trickle down' to the masses.

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6. Assigning infrastructure status to the logistics industry is a good first move, but there are several other problems related to this sector that need to be addressed. Discuss. (150 words) 10

लॉजिस्टिक्स (संभार-तंत्र) उद्योग को अवसंरचना का दर्जा देना एक अच्छी आरंभिक पहल है, लेकिन इस क्षेत्रक से जुड़ी अन्य कई समस्याएं हैं जिनसे निपटने की आवश्यकता है। चर्चा कीजिए।

Logistics sector is tasked with management of flow of goods from point of origin to consumption.

A high performing logistics sector has a knock on effects on the rest of the economy causing a virtuous cycle of bringing down cost of manufacturing and products while enhancing trade. Keeping its importance in mind the govt has given infrastructure status to this sector :-

- Facilitating Credit Flow to the sector
- Simplifying process of regulatory approval.
- Encouraging market accountability and attracting investments from debt, bonds, pension funds etc.

However these policy changes can't address all the issues faced by logistics sector :-

- Lack of oversight. The industry is highly fragmented and diverse
- Lack of skilled manpower.
- Lopsided priorities. The railways have a huge demand via both freight and passengers. They do cross subsidisation. Also the

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fro goods trains are given lower priority compared to passenger trains. Thus, though railways are cheaper than roadways, they aren't that preferred.

- Poor quality highways, lacking lighting and maintenance coupled with poor storage facilities.
- Port sector issues. High turnaround times, lack of inland waterways, inadequate depth and berth space etc.

Thus, due to these problems the logistics cost of India is around 14% of GDP, compared to an avg. of 8% for developed nations

Reform measures are :-

- Appropriate skilling and regulations regarding driver skills, operational times, drug testing etc.
- Adoption of technology like GIS, GPS, RFID tags etc.
- Coordination amongst govt. agencies.
- Promotion of cheaper modes of transport like developing dedicated freight railways or inland waterways.

In this regard govt. schemes like Bharatmala, GST, Sagarmala are steps in the right direction. Logistics reforms are urgently needed to promote Indian Exports, reduce inflation and CAD deficit (oil costs) and kickstart the economy into a higher gear.

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7. In view of the direct link between tenure security and food security, there is need for a conducive legal framework for land rights in India. Discuss. (150 words) 10

पट्टे की सुरक्षा और खाद्य सुरक्षा के बीच प्रत्यक्ष संबंध को ध्यान में रखते हुए, भारत में भूमि अधिकारों के लिए एक हितकर कानूनी ढांचे की आवश्यकता है। चर्चा कीजिए।

India's complex land structure and laws are a result of the British Zamindari, Ryotwari and Mahalwari schemes with institutional reforms such as land tenancy right and Abolition of Zamindari attempted post independence.

This has led to a situation of 'land to the tillers' where fragmented land holdings are intensively tilled for subsistence agriculture schemes.

The tenancy laws are also primarily being in favour of tenants and land ceiling acts have led to a situation where land owners let tenants or sharecroppers informally cultivate the land.

The small land holdings size means that if the crop fail then the tenants neither have access to food from crops, money from selling extra produce or the governmental welfare schemes. ~~like~~ / So these are interlinked:-

- Tenants do not invest in improving the land and yield like mechanisation, irrigation etc.

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- They do not have access to govt. schemes like loans, insurance etc. as they don't have rights to the land. (Informal)
- A failed yield affects the poor tenants disproportionately.
- Strict ~~to~~ laws lead to owners preferring to keep land uncultivated reducing food yield overall.

Also the corporatisation of agriculture with many acres being farmed at once to achieve bumper crops isn't possible.

Thus, the land laws reform is a priority for any govt. in India. A transparent and fair land leasing laws ~~which~~ is necessary ~~to~~.

The Niti Aayog proposed Model Land Leasing Law:-

- Formal lease agreement between owner & cultivator
- Creation of Special Land Tribunals for adjudication.
- Facilitation of credit against the ~~ex~~pected output for the tenants.
- Digitisation of Land Records as envisaged by NLRMP.

As this is a state matter, this model law can be adopted by the states with appropriate modifications in order to bring out the full potential of India's Agriculture.

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8. Minimum Support Price (MSP) of crops is a short term solution for agricultural distress which creates long term problems. Examine. Suggest measures to overcome the the limitations of the MSP regime.

(150 words) 10

फसलों के लिए न्यूनतम समर्थन मूल्य (MSP) कृषि संकट का एक अल्पकालिक समाधान है जो दीर्घकालीन समस्याएं पैदा करता है। परीक्षण कीजिए। MSP व्यवस्था की कमियों से निजात पाने हेतु उपाय सुझाइए।

MSP is a scheme of the government to :-

- Encourage farmers to grow crops.
- Insure farmers against sudden drop in price or demand.
- Insure customers against sudden rise in price and ensure availability.

To this end the Govt. announces the MSP at which FCI will procure crops from farmers.

However the model has many long term problematic effects :-

- Distorts production as farmers grow crops with high MSP rather than crops suited to the climate. This causes environmental problems, loss of fertility, overproduction of certain crops and shortfall in others which the govt. has to bear the burden of.
- Only the rich and aware landowners (around 6%) get their crops procured, mostly the poorer landless or subsistence farmers (usually in the Eastern states) do not benefit.
- Crops like Rice or Wheat are incentivised so grown in semi-arid regions like Punjab.

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- MSP is intended as insurance yet Swaminathan committee recommends increasing it.
- Public Stockholding Programmes are getting tougher to support as per WTO norms.
- Counter Cyclical approach followed by farmers ~~with regard~~ creating glut shortfall cycles in crops.

* The reforms in MSP ~~are~~ could be to increase the scope of procurement both in variety of crops and regional imbalance being corrected; meaningful consultation with ~~state~~ govt. ensuring that environmentally suitable crops are planted; announcing MSP in advance of sowing season ~~etc~~.

Other schemes are :-

- Price Deficiency Payment where the ~~deficiency~~ difference in MSP and actual selling price is paid by govt.
- Direct Income Transfer to farmers on basis of land sowed. This will reduce the distortionary effect of MSP and subsidies.

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9. With women playing an increasingly significant role in the Indian agriculture sector, gender specific interventions can be the key to improving agricultural productivity. Discuss. (150 words) 10

भारतीय कृषि क्षेत्रक में महिलाओं की बढ़ती भूमिका को ध्यान में रखते हुए, कृषि उत्पादकता में सुधार लाने के लिए लिंग विशिष्ट हस्तक्षेप महत्वपूर्ण हो सकते हैं। चर्चा कीजिए।

With growing rural-urban migration of men being observed, now almost 42% of the working force engaged in agricultural and farm activities are women.

This 'feminisation' of the sector though hasn't resulted in appropriate policy changes to address the altered scenario.

The challenges that women face are :-

- Enhanced work burden as they have to deal with domestic and agricultural issues.
- Most (82%) of the land is in name of men, so women have difficulties getting access to formalised or institutionalised credit.
- Limited educational qualifications and lack of skilling.
- Societal constraints.

The gender specific interventions needed are :-

- To leverage the 33% quota for women in Panchayati Raj institutions. They can address concerns of women (locally) and ensure govt. schemes are suited for women's needs.

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- Access to primary health care, medicines and facilities of creche, children's check ups etc. at Aanganwadi centres or PHC's.
- Encouraging Self Help Groups which have historically been successful in promoting access to credit for members.
- Setting up of cooperatives to increase scale and income.
- Govt. schemes to educate and make women aware of marketing, technology, credit etc.
- Changing inheritance laws denying women access to land.

While govt. schemes like MUDRA have provision of preferential credit to women; LPG schemes and other direct benefit transfer to be to the account of eldest female in household; MNREGA to have women centric guidelines etc. demonstrate growing awareness of the more entrepreneurial role of women in the rural economy, the requirement is of an inclusive but transformative gender policy so that women can fulfill this potential.

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10. Enumerating the factors that determine a nation's energy-mix, comment on the need for having a diversified fuel basket for meeting India's future energy demands. (150 words) 10

किसी राष्ट्र के ऊर्जा-समिश्र (एनर्जी-मिक्स) को निर्धारित करने वाले कारकों को सूचीबद्ध करते हुए, भारत की भावी ऊर्जा मांगों को पूरा करने हेतु एक विविधिकृत फ्यूल बास्केट के होने की आवश्यकता पर टिप्पणी कीजिए।

Energy Mix is the combination of various fuels and energy sources that fulfill the varied demands of the nation. They could be conventional like Wood, Coal, Oil, Petrol etc or unconventional like Hydropower, Solar Power, Nuclear, Wind etc.

The factors that affect the composition of this basket are:-

- Availability: Some nations like Saudi Arabia have oil reserves and can cheaply ~~sol~~ fulfill their energy demands from them.
- Demand: The manufacturing ~~and agricu~~ industry is power hungry. Nations with ~~manu~~ developed economies generally have higher energy requirement.
- Storage: Conventional sources lik coal or petrol can be stored while solar or wind cannot be used as a buffer.
- Technology: Nuclear power plants are advanced tech. ~~So co~~ which constrains their use.
- Environmental Concerns: Conventional sources pollute the earth and lead to climate change
- Policy Choices: This is wide ranging reason which could affect the mix.

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In India while more than 50% of our energy needs are met via coal on account of cheap price, availability, ability to scale as per demand, transportability, versatility etc we are trying the increase the share of solar and other renewable forms because:

- Per Capita Consumption of Energy increases as the economy grows.
- The non renewable sources are imported and India wishes to be self reliant.
- The renewable sources are becoming increasingly competitive in price with improvement in tech.
- Tech. advancement can like battery storage or smart grids can address shortcomings of solar energy with regards to the scaling with demand shortcoming.
- Environmentally better.

As a growing economy India's macroeconomic weaknesses which occur as a cause of importing fuel from the middle east needs to be addressed with diversification of its energy mix.

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11. Highlight the importance of MSME sector in India's economy. Also, identifying the challenges, suggest some policy recommendations to ensure their sustenance and competitive growth. (250 words) 15

भारत की अर्थव्यवस्था में MSME क्षेत्रक के महत्व पर प्रकाश डालिए। साथ ही, चुनौतियों की पहचान करते हुए उन्हें संपोषित करने और उनके प्रतिस्पर्धात्मक वृद्धि को सुनिश्चित करने के लिए कुछ नीतिगत अनुशंसाओं का सुझाव दीजिए।

MSME are those enterprises which have annual turnover of 5 Crore (~~Small~~), 75 Crore (Small) and 250 crores (Medium). Micro These are usually in the sectors of textile, food processing etc.

Importance of MSME :-

- Backbone of industrial sector, almost 90% of industrial units are MSME.
- They provide large scale employment.
- They help industrialise rural & backward areas.
- They promote equitable and inclusive growth.
- 50% of manufacturing exports are from MSME sector.
- Their flexibility means they can quickly innovate and excel (without inertia) due to changing conditions.

Challenges faced by them :

- Credit Crunch.
- Post liberalisation and after FDI norms being relaxed, they face intense competition.
- Skilled workers are unavailable.
- Complex labour, land and regulatory laws to be complied with.

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- Unavailability of power, reliable transport and other infrastructural shortcomings.
- Lack of marketing strategy and access to latest technology.
- Disruption due to demonetisation and GST.

Policy recommendations to improve prospects :-

- Availability of Finance by schemes such as MUDRA; private capital; venture capital; P2P lending; Credit Guarantee Scheme etc.
- Promotion of entrepreneurship by Start up India, Skill India; Stand Up India etc.
- Promoting indigenous manufacturing with schemes like Make in India and GeM 2.0 procuring from MSME's.
- Skill development and training through ~~IIIs~~ ITI's.
- Infrastructure upgradation.
- Reforming labour and land laws.

MSME's have the ability to propell India's growth story. The apt environment needs to be provided for them to truly flourish.

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12. A near stagnant tax to GDP ratio for the country since decades reflects not only non-fruition of efforts to increase it but also underlying structural issues with tax regime. Comment. **(250 words) 15**

राष्ट्र के लिए कई दशकों से कर-GDP अनुपात का लगभग स्थिर रहना, न केवल इसको बढ़ाने हेतु किए जाने के प्रयासों के फलीभूत न होने, अपितु कर व्यवस्था में अंतर्निहित संरचनागत समस्याओं को भी प्रतिबिंबित करता है। टिप्पणी कीजिए।

India's tax to GDP ratio is a meagre 16.6% which is low compared to ~~con~~ developed countries or even emerging economies.

Reasons for this low number are :-

- Low direct tax base. According to an income tax dept. report only 1.6% of the population pays income tax.
- Parallel Economy. A black money led economy which pays no taxes worth almost 1/4th of GDP.
- Informal Sector being the largest source of employment (92%) and infamous for tax evasion.
- Tax avoidance techniques like Swiss banks for hiding money, tax havens etc.
- Tax exemption policies like no tax on agricultural income have created loopholes.
- Understaffed revenue officials without appropriate resources and mandate.
- Legislative sprawl. India's tax code is one of the most complex and a major litigation source

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is that of taxmen and assessees which often are decided against the taxmen.

- Poor enforcement of laws, with compliance cost considered higher than non compliance.

While recent policy initiatives such as voluntary disclosure of black money, demonetisation, GST etc. have sought to increase the ratio yet some other reforms are still needed.

Way Forward :-

- GST has helped to increase the prospects of indirect tax increasing by increasing the no. of registered tax payers by almost half. Yet such a reform for direct tax code is still on the cards.
- A cleaner, simpler and more efficient direct tax code needs to be introduced.
- Provision of rewards and protection for whistleblowers revealing black money. This can be publicized and made easier to avail of.

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- A predictable, fast and more efficient tribunal or adjudicating mechanism to sort out tax disputes. This will reduce burden of taxpayers, judiciary and even the IRS.
- Increased efforts to formalise the economy.
- Tax exemptions and subsidies to be rationalised.
- Digitisation of economy.
- Increase non compliance cost and decrease compliance cost.
- Laws like GAAR to reduce tax evasion. Also measures like Double Tax avoidance agreement, Transfer Pricing agreement etc. need to be addressed

India needs to avoid falling (as the Economic Survey put it) into a 'Low Equilibrium Trap' where due to low revenue the govt. doesn't provide services and due to poor performance people don't comply with directives to pay more taxes.

An increase in tax to GDP ratio is must if India is to become a developed country

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13. Adhering to fiscal discipline is considered as a hallmark of sound financial management by government. Elaborate. To what extent does the Budget 2018 incorporates fiscal discipline vis-a-vis competing targets of the government? **(250 words) 15**

राजकोषीय अनुशासन के पालन को सरकार द्वारा स्वस्थ वित्तीय प्रबंधन की एक कसौटी माना जाता है। सविस्तार वर्णन कीजिए। 2018 का बजट किस सीमा तक सरकार के प्रतिस्पर्धी लक्ष्यों एवं राजकोषीय अनुशासन को समाविष्ट करता है?

Fiscal discipline can be defined as a govt. adhering to its pre set spending limits (keeping in mind the revenue) for the interests of long term financial health while ensuring ~~the~~ smooth operations at present. This discipline is essential to improve and sustain the economic growth, maintain macroeconomic stability and reduce vulnerabilities.

The downfall of not being disciplined are :-

- High budgetary deficit, loans and bailouts pushing burden on future generations.
- High cost of financing growth by ~~borr~~ borrowing money via loans or bonds at exorbitant rates.
- Downgrade of sovereign bond debt rating increasing borrowing cost.
- Loss in credibility of govt. in domestic and international sectors.

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- Depreciation of currency and rise in inflation.

- The 2018 Budget addressed some major reforms aimed at various sections like:-
  - Agrarian sector: Increasing MSP to 1.5 times production cost, doubling allocation for food processing sector, schemes promoting horticulture and bamboo cultivation etc.
  - Healthcare: The ambitious NHPS: Ayushman Bharat scheme providing insurance to 10 crore families.
  - Education: Reforms for educationally deprived sections.
  - Miscellaneous: Fisheries reform; free gas connection; creating jobs; boosting growth etc.

However financing these schemes can prove to be tricky while maintaining fiscal discipline. While the govt. has adhered (majorly) by NK Singh Committee recommendations based on the FRBM bill there are some slippages concerns:-

- Increase in Revenue Deficit.
- The Fiscal Deficit target has been set higher than 3%. (As per FRBM bill).

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- GST and demonetisation have led to slowdown as the economy recovers from these structural shocks. Also the GST revenue realised is lower than expected.
- Rising global oil prices have led to increase in Current Account Deficit.
- Meagre allocation of resources for ambitious schemes such as NHPS which is to cover 10 crore families has only been allocated 2 ~~crore~~ billion Rupees.

Thus, while political populism demands that caution be thrown to the winds yet its clear that the govt. has broadly tried to balance these 2 competing claims of short term growth and long term stability.

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14. The role of international trade in achieving a quicker pace of economic development is well recognized. What are the benefits of international trade for a developing country like India? Highlight the challenges that India faces in improving its share in world trade. **(250 words) 15**

आर्थिक विकास की द्रुत गति को हासिल करने में अंतरराष्ट्रीय व्यापार की भूमिका को बखूबी मान्यता प्राप्त है। भारत जैसे विकासशील राष्ट्र के लिए अंतरराष्ट्रीय व्यापार के क्या लाभ हैं? विश्व व्यापार में अपनी भागीदारी बढ़ाने में भारत द्वारा सामना की जाने वाली चुनौतियों पर प्रकाश डालिए।

Post 1991 and liberalisation reforms, International Trade has been a major driver in India's growth success story. International Trade accounts for around 20% of India's GDP.

Benefits :-

- Enhances competition for the domestic industries making them more efficient, cheaper, better managed etc.
- FDI and FPI are a major source of credit.
- FDI brings with it technological know how, new skills and machines, new management and administrative paradigm, promoting R&D etc.
- Export diversification where India can focus on its strengths and import the products it doesn't have. This makes global trade more efficient at using resources and skills

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- Promote access to new markets for India's goods.
- More variety and healthy competition so that consumers benefit.
- Open trade promotes India's industries to go global.
- Employment Opportunities and increase in quality of living.
- Trade is a good way to increase interdependence between countries and reduce conflicts.
- Worldwide awareness of India's culture through globalisation and tourism promotion.

While WTO and globalisation is considered to be a system which benefits all its participants yet it can't be denied that the benefits are unequal. Some of the challenges are :-

- Developing countries export primary goods like iron ore, minerals, oil and import finished goods like steels, refined petroleum products etc. The former are cheaper than the latter leading to losses

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- Rise in protectionism in the west and subtle roadblocks being put in WTO's running.
- Trade wars and ~~export~~ tariffs.
- WTO norms such as agricultural subsidies, export subsidies etc. favour the 'North' over 'South'. global
- IPR norms may prevent domestic supply of essential medicines.

Some of the unique challenges that India faces are infrastructural bottlenecks, high costs of goods production, excessive red tapism, complex regulations on trade, quotas etc

So a forward looking policy that rationalises India's tariff structure while ensuring compliance to non tariff barriers (Phyto Sanitary Standards et al) will improve trade. Further compliance with WTO's Trade Facilitation Agreement can increase trade.

This is a must to achieve sustainable growth in the long run.

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15. In the light of increasing NPAs and frauds, the twin balance sheet problem has grown immensely. Comment on the issue and analyse the potential of the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code to be a game changer for Indian economy's health and long-term growth. **(250 words) 15**

NPAs एवं धोखाधड़ी की बढ़ती घटनाओं के चलते, दोहरे तुलन पत्र (ट्विन बैलेंस शीट) की समस्या में अत्यधिक वृद्धि हुई है। इस मुद्दे पर टिप्पणी कीजिए तथा भारतीय अर्थव्यवस्था की दशा और दीर्घकालिक संवृद्धि के लिए दिवाला एवं दिवालियापन संहिता में एक गेम चेंजर होने की क्षमता का विश्लेषण कीजिए।

Twin Balance Sheet Problem refers to the overstressed and in debted companies and rising NPA's in the Public Sector Banks

The companies have stalled projects and high debts, so can't pay back the loans while the banks can't lend any more money as they have huge liabilities (or non performing assets) on their balance sheets.

This can be traced back to counter cyclic behaviour of firms.

Economic Boom → Companies want to start new projects, Banks want to lend more money

Just Before 2007, global boom period

Global Slowdown + Regulatory delays + Increase in Interest Rates

Around 2008

Rise in NPA's and Overleveraged Companies.

Stalled Projects

Post 2008

Depreciation in the Economy, Reduced growth rates

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To resolve this the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code has been introduced by the govt. It has following benefits :-

- It can resolve the bankruptcies in a systemic and time bound manner.
- Promote confidence in investors
- Provide quick exit to entrepreneurs as statistically most start ups fail. This way they're not stuck in a dead end.
- Cross Border Insolvency is addressed
- Foreign creditor's concerns are addressed
- Transparency in process.
- The staff and other physical assets can be put to productive usage quickly helping the economy.
- It has measures for restarting the company by changing management, restructuring loans etc. This way the savable companies can be salvaged.

However the IBC can only be a success if proactive changes are done where needed and the govt. courts, tribunals,

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Insolvency board, creditors etc. and the other stakeholders adhere to the spirit of the law.

The IBC is only one piece of the puzzle, to safeguard the Financial Institutions the govt. has brought in FRDI bill too. This will help to prevent them from bankruptcy.

Further recapitalisation of banks; merges of banks: bad bank (PARA); greater checks by RBI etc are proposed to resolve this situation.

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16. Enhancing private infrastructure spending and revival of stalled projects is critical to the success of Bharatmala Pariyojana. Discuss. Also enumerate measures taken by the government to revive stalled projects on National Highways. **(250 words) 15**

निजी अवसंरचना व्यय में वृद्धि एवं अवरुद्ध परियोजनाओं का पुनरुद्धार भारतमाला परियोजना की सफलता हेतु महत्वपूर्ण है। चर्चा कीजिए। साथ ही, राष्ट्रीय राजमार्गों से संबद्ध अवरुद्ध परियोजनाओं के पुनरुद्धार के लिए सरकार द्वारा उठाए गए कदमों को सूचीबद्ध कीजिए।

Bharatmala Pariyojana is an infrastructure project that will focus on optimizing efficiency of transporting good across the country. It's an umbrella project for development of highways, roads, rail tracks etc to achieve this.

This is an expensive project and to achieve this a lot of the funding (₹1 trillion) has to come through private sources.

In the current scenario of Twin Balance Sheet Problem, Stalled Projects, Overleveraged Companies, Banks unwilling to loan this seems improbable. Also govt. issues with regulatory clearances, environmental clearances, land acquisition etc are also a concern to private companies.

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Although the investment in infrastructure has been increasing yet it is still short of the benchmark. Thus enhancing and expanding private participation as well as revival of stalled projects is critical for the success of the Bharatmala Parivojana.

Measures taken by govt. to revive stalled projects on the highways are:-

- The NHAI has been monitoring them. Where physical completion has been achieved there has been fund infusion to complete them.
- Steps have been taken for streamlining land acquisition and environment clearances.
- Frequency of reviews has been increased, setting up of dispute resolution mechanism, exit clauses etc. to make these projects more attractive.
- Recapitalisation of banks to encourage lending.

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- IBC promoting quick resolution of insolvency of companies.
- Introduction of Hybrid Annuity Model overcoming shortcomings of Build Operate Transfer and Engineering Procurement Completion model as modes of PPP investment.
- Monetisation of projects through tolls on already operational projects to get fresh capital.
- Floating bonds to get more capital.

To further this renegotiation of stalled projects must be undertaken. A model PPP agreement is being finalised which should be adopted in future agreements

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17. Going forward, the allied sectors will play a critical role in increasing the resilience and improving economic returns in agriculture. Discuss. (250 words) 15

आगामी समय में, संबद्ध क्षेत्रक कृषि में लचीलापन बढ़ाने एवं आर्थिक प्रतिफल में सुधार लाने में एक महत्वपूर्ण भूमिका निभाएंगे। चर्चा कीजिए।

Fisheries, Livestock, Animal Husbandry, Floriculture, Horticulture, Sericulture, Forestry etc. are some of the allied sector activities.

These along with agriculture form the backbone of the rural economy with nearly 49% of ~~labo~~ employment and 20% of GDP production.

The benefits are :-

- Animal husbandry and livestock rearing is a key livelihood and risk mitigation strategy. They can be depended upon if crop fails.
- Livestock wealth is equitably distributed across India. Even small farmers have access to livestock.
- Their interlinkage with agriculture as a source of labour, manure and consumer of fodder enhances output and profits.

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- Fisheries: India is leading produces in the world.
- Provides access to cheap and healthy protein.
- Self employment opportunities to the coastal villages.
- India can export fish to other countries and do value enhancement post food processing.
- Supplements the income of farmers
- Horticulture can be a cash crop, if returns from other crops are low these can be high.
- Different climatic conditions can practice it.
- A form of commercial agriculture, generally practiced near cities providing greater income than average.
- Great scope for value addition via food processing (Like Jams, Pickles etc.)
- Agro forestry can benefit the environment, reduce soil degradation, increase income via selling wood etc.

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- These activities can diversify the income sources, hedge against bad crops or climatic conditions so in a way they ~~are~~ should be promoted to make India's agriculture truly sustainable and profitable.

To achieve the goal of doubling farmer's income by 2022, these allied activities are essential and should be promoted.

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18. Enumerate the factors that determine cropping pattern in an agricultural region. Discuss the need for diversification in context of problems being faced by monoculture regions in India. **(250 words) 15**

किसी कृषि क्षेत्र में फसल पद्धति को निर्धारित करने वाले कारकों को सूचीबद्ध कीजिए। भारत में एकल फसली क्षेत्रों द्वारा सामना की जा रही समस्याओं के संदर्भ में फसल विविधीकरण की आवश्यकता की चर्चा कीजिए।

Cropping pattern refers to type of crops grown, no. of times grown in an year (Cropping Seasons) and ~~and~~ methodology of farming (Mechanised or Manual etc.).

It has both spatial & temporal dimensions. Some of the factors influencing it in India are:

- Climate: Some crops are suited more to a particular climate.
- ~~Topography~~ Climate is a consequence of geography, topography, latitude, proximity to sea etc.
- Technology: Some seeds are fast growing so more crops can be sown in ~~a year~~ year.
- Govt. Policies: MSP promotes growth of rice and ~~cor~~ wheat as they are directly procured. In general the crops that are favoured by govt. policies are grown over the ones that are not.
- Demand

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- Farm Size: Plantation crops can't be grown in small landholdings.
- Access to water.
- Access to fertilizers.
- Self Needs: Most of the farming is for self sufficiency.
- Access to Labour and Technology.
- Behavioral Factors: The farmer ultimately decides. So his decision is also based on feeling, history, inertia, comfort zone, price of last years crops etc.

So with these factors in India we have mostly small land holdings, mostly cultivating rice & wheat, with intensive cultivation and depending on region 2 or 3 cropping seasons per year. In regions with availability of irrigation and fertilisers we ~~ha~~ observe monocultures. Cultivation of one type of crop for many years at a time.
The ill effects of this are :-

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- Declining fertility of soil as essential nutrients are never replenished.
- Declining productivity.
- Lower fertiliser effectiveness leading to over use and leaching.
- Chances of a pest affecting that crop increases with more exposure to it.

Hence crop diversification needs to be encouraged. High value crops like horticulture can be encouraged. Also govt. policies like MSP need to be reformed to make all crops equally profitable. Farmers need to be sensitised on this issue.

The govt. is taking steps like Crop Diversification Programme, National Horticulture Mission, Price Deficiency Payment etc.

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19. It is argued that fertilizer subsidies have a negative impact on promoting Organic farming in India. Comment. Also, critically analyse the advantages of replacing direct benefit transfer in fertilizers with direct income support for farmers. **(250 words) 15**

यह तर्क दिया जाता है कि भारत में जैविक खेती को बढ़ावा देने में उर्वरक सब्सिडी का एक नकारात्मक प्रभाव रहा है। टिप्पणी कीजिए। साथ ही, उर्वरकों के लिए प्रत्यक्ष लाभ अंतरण के बदले किसानों को प्रत्यक्ष आय सहायता प्रदान करने के फायदों का आलोचनात्मक विश्लेषण कीजिए।

To promote crop yield the government ~~ofto~~ has subsidised the potash, nitrogen and potassium based fertilisers in India.

~~However the negative effects of this are:~~
~~Massive drain on the treasury.~~

However they hamper organic farming (which is natural, i.e. no fertilisers, GM seeds, herbicides etc) :

- Make chemical farming inordinately productive.
- Make chemical farming artificially profitable by reducing input cost relative to organic.
- Inhibit adoption of organic farming.
- Overuse of fertilisers leads to seepage or ~~lithage~~ leakage affecting the nearby organic farms.
- Corporate interests demand subsidies be retained.
- Reduce interest in manufacturing organic fertilisers.

Moreover the fertiliser programme suffers from leakages and misappropriation of fertilisers

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to be sold in other countries or used for other purposes causing huge loss to the treasury.

Overuse of cheap fertilisers (nitrogen based) has led to soil degradation.

Thus, centre has decided to (on a pilot project basis) replace fertilisers subsidy with direct benefit transfer (DBT).

In this scheme the money (of subsidy) is given to factories and sale is through point of sale (PoS) devices to Aadhar identified beneficiaries.

However in direct income support (DIS) monetary assistance is provided to farmer directly (JAM trinity) into their bank accounts and fertilisers sold at market rate. Advantages of DIS over DBT :-

- More transparency.
- Doesn't distort market as companies aren't incentivised to produce more than market demand and compromise on quality.
- Gives freedom of choice to farmer,

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- Based on hectares own so farmer doesn't overuse.
- More equitable ~~as others~~ and crop neutral.

Disadvantages :-

- Huge financial commitment.
- Identification of beneficiaries as informal tenants and sharecroppers may be left out. Also those outside JAM coverage.
- Income support may be diverted for other uses.
- Inflation would increase, no check on price of fertilisers or supply.
- Improper land records would hamper actual amount of subsidy calculation.

Hence, both these schemes should be tried as pilot projects and their drawbacks carefully studied before a final decision is made.

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20. What do you understand by Seed Replacement Rate? Explaining the concept of breeder, foundation and certified seeds, highlight the major policy initiatives taken in order to address the challenge of quality seed availability to farmers. **(250 words) 15**

बीज प्रतिस्थापन दर (सीड रिप्लेसमेंट रेट) से आप क्या समझते हैं? ब्रीडर, फाउंडेशन और प्रमाणित बीजों की अवधारणा की व्याख्या करते हुए, किसानों के लिए गुणवत्तापरक बीजों की उपलब्धता की चुनौती का समाधान करने हेतु की गई प्रमुख नीतिगत पहलों पर प्रकाश डालिए।

Seed Replacement Rate is ratio of total crop area sown with certified / quality seeds compared to that sown with farm saved seeds. ~~This tells us the~~ As certified seeds have higher yield and better quality yield this tells us the chances of higher productivity of yield

Breeder seeds are those where the crop progeny can be used as ~~breeder~~ foundation seeds ~~themselves~~ as they can reproduce because they are 100% physically and genetically pure.

Foundation are progeny of breeder seeds. They though give rise to more foundation seeds. ~~so~~

Certified seeds are those which come up to prescribed standards amongst the progeny of foundation seeds.

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Seeds being one of the primary inputs that leads to a successful crop yield the govt. has taken various policy measures to ensure availability of high quality seeds :-

- National mission on oilseeds and palm.
- Setting up of Plant Breeder Institutes.
- Setting up of Agricultural Research Universities.
- Establishing ICAR (Indian Council of Agricultural Research).
- Seed certification agencies to certify seeds.
- National Seeds Programme as a precursor to the Green Revolution.
- Measures to allow safe (environmentally and otherwise) Genetically Modified crops like cotton into India with appropriate IPR rights to protect the interests (legitimate) of these companies.
- Policies like National Seed Policy, Seed Banks, Seed hubs, Seed Summits etc.

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The Ashok Dalwai Committee as a means of doubling farmers income by 2022 has suggested to increase SRR; replace old seeds with new to increase yield; promote hybrid technology; strengthen seed testing agencies; promote export of seeds; adopt uniform seed licensing policy and promote public bodies in this sector.

These steps will increase availability of quality seeds and decrease production cost and risk for farmers, adding to their income.

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GENERAL STUDIES (TEST CODE : 1150)

Name of Candidate	Nihal Randhawa		
Medium Eng./Hindi	English	Registration Number	58233
Center	N/A	Date	20-Aug-2018

INDEX TABLE

Q. No.	Maximum Marks	Marks Obtained
1	10	
2	10	
3	10	
4	10	
5	10	
6	10	
7	10	
8	10	
9	10	
10	10	
11	15	
12	15	
13	15	
14	15	
15	15	
16	15	
17	15	
18	15	
19	15	
20	15	

Total Marks Obtained:

Remarks:

INSTRUCTIONS

1. Do furnish the appropriate details in the answer sheet (viz. Name, Registration Number and Test Code).
   उत्तर पुस्तिका में सूचनाएं भरना आवश्यक है (नाम, प्रश्न-पत्र कोड, विद्यार्थी क्रमांक आदि)।
2. There are **TWENTY** questions printed in **ENGLISH & HINDI**
   इसमें बीस प्रश्न हैं अंग्रेजी और हिन्दी में छपे हैं।
3. **All questions are compulsory.**
   सभी प्रश्न अनिवार्य हैं।
4. The number of marks carried by a question/part is indicated against it.
   प्रत्येक प्रश्न/भाग के अंक उसके सामने दिए गए हैं।
5. Answers must be written in the medium authorized in the Admission Certificate, which must be stated clearly on the cover of this Question-Cum-Answer (QCA) Booklet in the space provided. No marks will be given for answers written in medium other that the authorized one.
   प्रश्नों के उत्तर उसी माध्यम में लिखे जाने चाहिए जिसका उल्लेख आपके प्रवेश पत्र में किया गया है और उस माध्यम का स्पष्ट उल्लेख प्रश्न-सह-उत्तर (क्यूसीए) पुस्तिका के मुख्य पृष्ठ पर अंकित निर्दिष्ट स्थान पर किया जाना चाहिए। उल्लिखित माध्यम के अतिरिक्त अन्य किसी माध्यम में लिए गए उत्तर पर कोई अंक नहीं मिलेंगे।
6. Word limit in questions, if specified, should be adhered to.
   प्रश्नों में शब्द सीमा, जहाँ विनिर्दिष्ट है, का अनुसरण किया जाना चाहिए।
7. Any page or portion of the page left blank in the Question-Cum-Answer Booklet must be clearly struck off.
   उत्तर पुस्तिका में खाली छोड़ा हुआ पृष्ठ या उसके अंश को स्पष्ट रूप से काटा जाना चाहिए।

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M-1/4, Plot No-A-12/13, 1st Floor, Ansal Building, Dr. Vidya Sagar Homeopathic Clinic, Mukherjee Nagar, Delhi-110009

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EVALUATION INDICATORS

1. Contextual Competence
2. Content Competence
3. Language Competence
4. Introduction Competence
5. Structure - Presentation Competence
6. Conclusion Competence

Overall Macro Comments / feedback / suggestions on Answer Booklet:

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.

6.

All the Best

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1. Technical solutions are necessary to augment the traditional methods of guarding the border. In this context, while mentioning the different components of Comprehensive Integrated Border Management System (CIBMS), discuss how it can help to address the gaps in the present system of border security. (150 words) 10

सीमा चौकसी की पारंपरिक विधियों का संवर्द्धन करने हेतु तकनीकी समाधान आवश्यक है। इस संदर्भ में, व्यापक एकीकृत सीमा प्रबंधन प्रणाली (कॉम्प्रिहेंसिव इंटीग्रेटेड बॉर्डर मैनेजमेंट सिस्टम: CIBMS) के विभिन्न घटकों का उल्लेख करते हुए, चर्चा कीजिए कि सीमा सुरक्षा की वर्तमान व्यवस्था में विद्यमान कमियों को दूर करने में यह कैसे सहायता कर सकता है।

India has long and porous borders which need comprehensive guarding because of various issues like terrorism, illegal migrants, cross border crime, smuggling etc. While the traditional methods of patrolling and fencing by border security forces exist the government is also taking use of technological aids to augment their efforts.

The Comprehensive Integrated Border Management System (CIBMS) is a technological solution that the govt. has adopted. It has 3 major components :-

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- High Tech Surveillance Systems like Radar, Lasers, Sensors, Cameras etc. for increasing and comprehensive 24/7 surveillance along the border.
- Communication Systems like Radio, Walkie Talkies, Intranet, Satellite Communication and Fibre Optic Cables to seamlessly transmit the information gathered by the surveillance systems to the security personnel.
- Command Centre manned around the clock to act on any incursions.

This would address lacunae such as Adverse Climatic Conditions; Personnel Shortage; Bribing at the checkposts; Night Vision; Inability to patrol inaccessible locations etc.

So the CIBMS system if properly installed and used will prove to be a game changer in the increasing struggle to safeguard our borders.

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2. In comparison to conventional warfare, the possibility of successful deterrence against cyber warfare is both limited and complicated. Discuss. Also, elaborate upon India's preparedness in this regard. **(150 words) 10**

पारंपरिक युद्ध की तुलना में, साइबर युद्ध के विरुद्ध सफल भयादोहन (निवारण) की संभावना सीमित और जटिल दोनों है। चर्चा कीजिए। साथ ही, इस संबंध में भारत की तैयारियों का सविस्तार वर्णन कीजिए।

After Land, Air and Water ; Cyber and Space are the next frontiers in modern warfare. However cyber warfare is unique in its challenges, the open nature of the Internet and the truly global functioning of its institutions means that traditional ~~deterrence~~ defence methods will not work in cyber warfare. Here the adversary can be either state actors or non state actors and the goals could be terrorism, warfare, cyber crime or cyber fraud.

A devastating attack could be launched from anywhere and could target vital defence institutions for eg St Stuxnet virus launched against Iran's Nuclear Reactors which ~~overshocked~~ destroyed a fan in the reactor.

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The Challenges faced are :-

- Indias cyber databases and servers could be located outside its territorial jurisdiction
- Lack of Coordination between Govt. Institutions dealing variously with fraud, cyber terrorism, safeguarding the internet and the army.
- Lack of Awareness of this and phenomena and consequently not taking common precaution like strong passwords on sensitive data.
- The Lack of Public Private Collaboration.
- Reliance on hardware imported from countries like China or Software from USA.

However some measures taken by the Govt are :-

- Setting up of Cert-IN as nodal agency on cyber crimes.
- Mandatory disclosing of cyber attacks by private companies.
- Make in India being extended to hardware
- Cyber Swacchta kendra ; Botnet Cleaning and Malware Wiping Centre for analysis of the.
- Army, Airforce and Navy coming up with operational papers on how to protect their critical data and institutions in the event of attacks on their IT infrastructure.

In addition to defence, India needs to invest and research Cyber-Offence as well to truly protect its national interests

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3. Analyse the impact that the instability in the wider South Asian region has on India's internal security. What steps can be taken to minimise such impact? **(150 words) 10**

विस्तृत दक्षिण एशियाई क्षेत्र में अस्थिरता का भारत की आंतरिक सुरक्षा पर पड़ने वाले प्रभावों का विश्लेषण कीजिए। ऐसे प्रभावों के अल्पीकरण हेतु क्या कदम उठाए जा सकते हैं?

"We Can Choose Our Friends, but not our Neighbours" – Mr. AB Vajpayee.

Much of India's security concerns are related to its immediate neighbourhood, Pakistan, Nepal, Afghanistan, Maldives, Sri Lanka, ~~Ch~~ Bangladesh and Myanmar.

However the ~~instability has bee~~ region has been unstable :-

- Pakistan based and sponsored Islamic Terrorist Groups and State Sponsored unrest in J&K.
- Sri Lanka has defeated LTTE but there exist ex LTTE members and sympathisers there and in Tamil Nadu. More worryingly Sri Lankan debt troubles have meant that China has (on lease) taken over Hambantota Port (String of Pearls).
- Afghanistan is still unstable and Taliban has been resurgent in the rural areas.
- Nepal has had a rise in anti India sentiment and is making overtures to China

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- Porous Borders of Bangladesh and Myanmar have meant that whenever there is instability these refugees can come to India.
- India is at the middle of the 2 hotspots of global drug producing regions; the Golden Crescent; Myanmar and Afghanistan
- Bhutan was party to the Doklam Affair.

Possible Steps :-

- SAARC should be revived, it can act as a dialogue forum; confidence and trust building measures can be taken; economic interdependence increased, joint anti terrorism operations; development through trade etc.
- India should address religious fundamentalism within its borders to prevent terrorism, secessionism and radicalisation.
- Bilateral talks with all its neighbours to prevent the Chinese Influence from growing.
- Promoting Cultural and People to People Contacts

Ultimately, India's desires to be a global power and can only come true when its a regional power and lives in a safe and secure neighbourhood.

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4. Highlighting its mandate, discuss the significance of International Solar Alliance in positioning India to a key global leadership role. **(150 words) 10**

अंतर्राष्ट्रीय सौर गठबंधन के अधिदेश पर प्रकाश डालते हुए, भारत को एक प्रमुख वैश्विक नेतृत्वकर्ता की भूमिका में स्थान दिलाने में इसके महत्व पर चर्चा कीजिए।

The International Solar Alliance is an alliance of countries ~~living~~ lying b/w Tropic of Cancer and Capricorn to harness their Solar Power Potential jointly launched by the PM of India and President of France at the sideline of the COP 21 UN Climate Change Conference.

Its major target is to promote the use of Solar energy and it proposed that to achieve the aim of 1000 GW of Solar Energy by 2030 the ISA will :

- Mobilise 1000 US dollars ~~for research~~ funding
- It will promote research in more efficient photovoltaic cells and more efficient batteries.
- Fund under developed countries in installing Solar Power ~~co~~ facilities.
- Develop innovative solutions to bring down capital cost.

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The ISA is a highly relevant institution at a time when the Global Community is dealing with Anthropogenic Climate Change and after USA leaving the Paris Climate Agreement India can position itself as a leader in the international effort to combat climate change. With India promising funding and personnel support; also the Permanent Secretariat of this institution is to be at Gurugram; and its rich potential in developing and using Solar Energy India should be the world leader in this domain.

If the ISA can fulfill its mandate, get most of the 121 eligible countries on board (currently around 60 have joined) then India can rightfully take a key global leadership role.

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5. Despite a strong case for a Broad-based Trade and Investment Agreement (BTIA) between India and the European Union (EU), negotiations have been stuck for long owing to multiple factors. Analyse. (150 words) 10

भारत और यूरोपीय संघ (EU) के बीच व्यापक आधार वाले व्यापार और निवेश समझौते (ब्रॉडबेस्ड ट्रेड एंड इन्वेस्टमेंट अग्रीमेंट: BTIA) हेतु सुदृढ़ परिस्थितियां होने के बावजूद कई कारकों के चलते वार्ता लम्बे समय से अटकी हुयी है। विश्लेषण कीजिए।

India and EU have been Strategic Partners since 2004 and it - India's single largest trading partner as well as largest source of FDI. Thus, calls for a BTIA b/w India and the EU have been emerating from a long time. However negotiations which began in 2007, have been on hold since 2013 because -

- India's protectionist stance on automobiles.
- EU's concerns over tariff rates on dairy products, wines and spirits.
- Indias insistence on diluted rights of Investors whereas EU insists on a robust Investor State Dispute Settlement Mechanism. EU is opposed to the model ~~Bilt~~ Bilateral Investment Treaty ~~model~~ proposed by India

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- India wants to protect its farmers from the highly subsidised agricultural sector of EU.
- India wants ~~to~~ freer movement of skilled workers and related visa regimes.
- EU's strict data protection laws don't accept India as a data secure nation which affects the IT Service Industry.

Though the EU-India BTIA would have great economic benefits to certain sectors of the economy like Pharmaceutical, FDI, Textile and Leather etc negotiations have been seemingly stuck. However in the changing Global climate with USA's insistence on bilateral trade deals, Brexit, undermining of the WTO etc. both India and the EU would be well served if they can come to an agreement which can still provide a fillip to the idea of free, fair and mutually beneficial trade

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6. Accession to the Ashgabat agreement is valuable for connecting India to its extended neighbourhood. What is the Ashgabat Agreement? Assess its significance for India. **(150 words) 10**

अश्गाबात समझौते में शामिल होना वस्तुतः भारत के लिए अपने विस्तारित पड़ोस से जुड़ने की दृष्टि से मूल्यवान है। अश्गाबात समझौता क्या है? भारत के लिए इसके महत्व का मूल्यांकन कीजिए।

The Ashgabat Agreement is an agreement for establishing facilitation of transit and transportation between the regions of Central Asia and the Middle East in 2011. However recently India too has joined it in 2018 causing the no. of countries as members to extend to 6, India, Oman, Iran, Kazakhstan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan.

Its benefits to India are manifold -

- Connectivity and Trade - India has been desirous of extending its trade with and through the Central Asian region. This will supplement its other efforts such as Gwadar Port in Iran or the International North South Corridor
- Export Market for Indian goods in the Central Asian Republics

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- Import of minerals and other such goods from Europe, Russia, and Persian Gulf countries will be enhanced.
- Strategic benefit as India will gain access to ~~Stra~~ imp. areas like Strait of Hormuz
- Increase India's Ease of Doing Business.
- Energy Security from access to Persian Gulf.
- Counter Chinas OBOR initiative.
- Synergy with existing projects like Gwadar Port, Project Mausam, INSTC etc

However the project still has concerns regarding the unstable government in the region; credit requirements; USA - Iran conflicts; Security Challenges due to terrorism et al. ~~Thus~~

If India can augment its potential then this agreement can be the spring board for further growth.

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7. The Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multi-Sectoral Technical and Economic Cooperation (BIMSTEC) is a natural choice for India to fulfill key foreign policy priorities. In this context, discuss the issues behind hitherto slow progress and the reasons for reinvigorated optimism regarding BIMSTEC.
(150 words) 10

बहु-क्षेत्रीय तकनीकी एवं आर्थिक सहयोग के लिए बंगाल की खाड़ी पहल (BIMSTEC), भारत के लिए अपनी विदेश नीति संबंधी प्रमुख प्राथमिकताओं की पूर्ति हेतु एक स्वाभाविक चयन है। इस संदर्भ में, अब तक हुई धीमी प्रगति के पीछे निहित मुद्दों और BIMSTEC के संबंध में पुनर्जीवित होते आशावाद की चर्चा कीजिए।

2017 marked the 20th anniversary of ~~the~~ BIMSTEC however its performance in ~~these~~ years has been disappointing. Bringing together the 7 littoral states of the Bay of Bengal India, Bangladesh, Thailand Nepal, Bhutan, Myanmar and Sri Lanka this project provided for opportunities for mutual benefit and cooperation among these nations.

It could act as a bridge between South Asian and ~~SAARC~~ ASEAN countries with Myanmar as the ~~two~~ frontier. However annual summits have taken place only thrice. The causes for this are:-

- Lack of Leadership. Thailand, Myanmar

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are more engaged with ~~SAARC~~ ASEAN's more integrated model while the South Asian countries have wasted effort in trying to make SAARC as a success

- No FTA within members has hindered economic closeness.
- Poor Connectivity b/w member countries
- Lack of funding and manpower.

However with growing protectionism in global trade, regional groupings have become extremely important. So considering the logjam at SAARC and the vast potential of ~~an India~~ this grouping for the members and potentially with ASEAN there has been a growing interest + visible in this grouping. The establishment of a Secretariat at Dhaka; India's Look and Act East Policy; Transport agreements like Kaladan Multimodal Project; Mekong Ganga Cooperation; India hosting BRICS-BIMSTEC joint summit are some of the reasons for renewed hope.

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8. What do you understand by Free Space Optical Communication (FSOC) Technology? Critically explain its potential in connecting rural and remote areas in India. **(150 words) 10**

फ्री स्पेस ऑप्टिकल कम्युनिकेशन (FSOC) प्रौद्योगिकी से आप क्या समझते हैं? भारत में ग्रामीण और दूरस्थ क्षेत्रों को जोड़ने में इसकी क्षमताओं की आलोचनात्मक व्याख्या कीजिए।

Free Space Optical Communication technology is a tech where information is transmitted through the free movement of light particles in space. It is a Line of Sight technology. It has an advantage over existing technology like Optical Fiber cables of being wireless and thus can be used where connections are not practical.

This technology can be of great benefit for connecting rural and remote areas of India as :-

- These are at present either unserved or served through high latency and low bandwidth mediums.
- This has the high bandwidth of Optical technology and the speed (latency) too.

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- It requires low investment cost.
- It is a secure system because of the LOS requirement.

However it cannot yet be freely used :-

- It is affected by climatic and weather conditions like rain, haze, fog etc.
- Physical obstructions can block the LOS.
- It requires high power consumption.
- Other light sources or misalignment errors affect it.

The benefits of it merit a focussed, detailed and fool proof plan for installing and operating it in rural areas.

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9. What are Orphan Drugs? Examine the significance of putting in place a policy framework for such drugs in a developing country such as India.

(150 words) 10

ऑर्फन ड्रग्स क्या है? भारत जैसे एक विकासशील देश में ऐसी दवाओं हेतु एक नीतिगत ढांचा स्थापित करने के महत्व का परीक्षण कीजिए।

In general in the Pharmaceutical Industry the giant corporations develop new drugs and recoup the costs of R&D through profits made on selling these then patented drugs.

However for rare diseases like hemophilia, the companies can't recoup the costs of research and development hence these drugs are called Orphan Drugs.

In countries like USA, UK the govt. has policies to stimulate research in these ignored diseases, incentives such as shorter trials; tax breaks etc. to make it commercially viable for the companies to invest in them.

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In India, the insurance companies often treat these diseases as ~~rare~~ pre existing conditions hence there is a critical need for the govt. to promote development of treatment for these diseases. India's investment in R&D in the private sector is poor compared to developed countries however orphan drugs can provide a unique opportunity. As the R&D scene is in general very competitive and given the headstart the foreign companies have local companies prefer to make generics. However govt. policies promoting R&Ds patents, business friendly regulators etc. can cause a spur to Indian companies to take a lead in developing cures. So Indian companies can ~~adopt~~ 'adopt' these orphan drugs

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10. Discuss the obstacles in women's access to science education in India and also suggest remedial measures to overcome these obstacles.

(150 words) 10

भारत में विज्ञान की शिक्षा तक महिलाओं की पहुंच के मार्ग में आने वाली बाधाओं पर चर्चा कीजिए और इन बाधाओं को दूर करने के लिए उपचारात्मक उपाय भी सुझाइए।

Though Indians often tend to hail scientific education yet it's observed that it remains a traditionally male bastion.

With enrolment ratio in premier institution like IIT's often as bad as 1:15 the govt. has taken steps like scholarships, awareness campaigns, fee waivers, application fee waivers etc. to remedy this. Yet the problems persist because :-

- Parental and Societal issues. With certain streams like Mechanical considered unbecoming to girls or societal expectations of girls to take arts and boys to take science
- Financial issues. Parents tend to prioritise the education of sons over daughters.

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- If science colleges are residential then parents might not prefer to send daughters there.
- Lack of role models in STEM fields.

However the govt can take remedial measures like :-

- Safety and Security concerns should be addressed.
- Fee concessions or reservation for girl candidates. Like in IIT's the no. of seat have been increased for girls.
- Primary education at rural areas to be improved and made more accessible.
- Showcase female role models in STEM
- Promote jobs for women in science field to make it a viable and attractive career

Thus, these ~~schemes~~ policy changes can make India's scientific revolution a gender equal one.

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11. Giving examples, elaborate how India's approach to becoming a net security provider in the Indian Ocean Region is taking shape. What are the challenges and opportunities associated with this approach?

(250 words) 15

उदाहरण देते हुए, सविस्तार वर्णन कीजिए कि किस प्रकार हिंद महासागर क्षेत्र में वास्तविक सुरक्षा प्रदाता (नेट सिक्युरिटी प्रोवाइडर) बनने का भारत का दृष्टिकोण आकार ले रहा है। इस दृष्टिकोण से संबद्ध चुनौतियां एवं अवसर क्या हैं?

The Indian Ocean Region is of critical importance to India's ~~Security~~ National Interest. With 95% of India's trade passing through this region, ensuring its security, ~~and~~ freedom of navigation and open Sea Lines of Communication (SLOC) are primary concerns for India.

Furthermore around 80% of global trade flows through this area hence the whole world has a vested interest in the freedom of trade in this region. So if India doesn't ensure freedom of trade it creates a vacuum for other countries like China ~~and~~ or USA to step in and potentially threaten Indian Concerns.

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Steps taken by India are :-

- India has bilateral agreements with various countries to patrol to sea.
- Multilateral agreements like Quad agreement to commit to free trade.
- India with its position jutting into the ocean and strategic bases at Andaman & Nicobar & Lakshadweep can use these strategic chokeholds when needed.
- Strengthening the Navy with investment in Subs and Ships (like Aircraft Carrier from Russia) to transform it into a blue water navy
- Ensuring India's naval border security with advanced drones, strengthening the Coast Guard & intelligence gatherings
- Naval exercises like Malabar exercise or Project Milan.
- India has committed resources to fighting piracy at Somalia.
- Agreements for ensuring security with countries like Oman and setting

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up docking arrangements in Malaysia for Navy

- Indian Ocean Rim Association
- Indian Ocean Naval Symposium with navies of indian ocean littoral nations.

Though India faces Challenges like an increasingly assertive China establishing bases as a part of maritime BRO (Border Roads Org) at places like Hambantota Port (Sri Lanka) and Gwadar Port (Pakistan) to encircle India in a String of Pearls; bases by ambitious countries like USA, UK, China at strategic islands like Diego Garcia, Djibouti; piracy and maritime terrorism; climate change led freak weather incidents; growing disenchantment in neighbouring countries like Maldives.

However opportunities are there as the asian countries are looking toward India as a counter to China and as a net security provider and if India can leverage its soft and hard power it can fulfill its objectives in this region.

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12. The UNODC (United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime) has pitched for the need of an integrated approach in order to address the difficulties in preventing, detecting, investigating and prosecuting Transnational Organised Crimes (TOC). Elaborating on these difficulties, discuss how an integrated approach can help in tackling TOCs. **(250 words) 15**

पार-राष्ट्रीय संगठित अपराधों (ट्रांसनेशनल ऑर्गनाइज्ड क्राइम्स: TOCs) को रोकने, पता लगाने, जाँच करने और अभियोजित करने में आने वाली कठिनाइयों से निपटने के लिए UNODC (यूनाइटेड नेशंस ऑफिस ऑन ड्रग एंड क्राइम्स) ने एक एकीकृत दृष्टिकोण की आवश्यकता पर बल दिया है। इन कठिनाइयों का सविस्तार वर्णन करते हुए, चर्चा कीजिए कि किस तरह एक एकीकृत दृष्टिकोण से TOCs से निपटने में सहायता मिल सकती है।

Transnational Organised Crimes (TOC) are a form of organised crimes which transcend national boundaries, involving coordinated actions by criminals living in different countries. These are often observed to be closely linked to terrorists so they provide a stark challenge to law enforcement.

Some of the common forms are :-

- Drug Smuggling
- Human Trafficking.
- Smuggling.
- Cybercrime.
- Smuggling of weapons

These are often observed to help terrorists access both goods and money.

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The difficulties of curbing it are multidimensional :-

Prevention

- Weak preventive, regulatory laws or statutes.
- Uncoordinated action between industries.
- Rise in global extremism and radicalisation across the internet.
- Criminals can safely collaborate over secure end to end encrypted communication
- Lack of actionable intelligence

Detection

- Secure ~~con~~ encrypted communication and fake identity cards.
- Porous borders and open borders with some states, for eg. majority of fake currency in India came via Nepal & Bangladesh
- Weak intelligence networks

Investigation

- They require specialised skills.
- Inafficient information sharing norms.
- Lack of cooparation b/w all the countries ~~b~~ where the crime occured

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Prosecution

- Weak legislation which is outdated and unable to handle today's complex frauds.
- Lack of cooperation b/w countries like difficulties in extradition of criminals
- International Law is a specialised, niche and misunderstood branch which comes into play here.

To counter this an integrated approach as highlighted by UNODC is required. The 1st step should be signing and ratifying the multilateral protocols such as UNTOC. This will update the legislative framework to handle these cases bringing it in line with the best practices of the world. Also ~~the~~ enhance bilateral cooperation and set institutional frameworks for intelligence sharing both within Indian institutions and foreign entities.

Alongwith this capability and capacity building of police, CBI, IR, RAW etc. should be taken

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13. Highlighting the need for SMART policing in India, suggest some administrative, legislative and technological reforms in order to realize this vision. (250 words) 15

भारत में SMART पुलिसिंग की आवश्यकता पर प्रकाश डालते हुए, इस दृष्टि को साकार करने के लिए कुछ प्रशासनिक, विधायी और तकनीकी सुधारों का सुझाव दीजिए।

SMART – Sensitive and Strict; Modern and with Mobility; Alert and Accountable; Reliable and Responsive; Trained and Techno Savvy.

These traits are needed because :-

- A sharp escalation in crimes.
- Growing pressure on the Criminal Justice System (CJS)
- Increasing pressure on police because of internal stresses like growing population, organised crimes, terrorism etc.
- Growing ~~sho~~ mistrust b/w police and population at large.

The Reforms needed to achieve these aims can be subdivided as :-

ADMINISTRATIVE

- Seperation of Crime Investigation duties and Law and Order Duties
- Dedicated focus on cyber crimes.
- Setting up of Police Establishment Boards to give autonomy to police from politicians.

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- Following of Supreme Court give guidelines on in the selection of DGP by UPSC members.
- Fixed tenure of officers insulated from political pressures.
- Capacity building of police ~~officer~~ officials by training at apt stages.

LEGISLATIVE

- Centre should prepare a reformed Modern Police bill for states to adopt.
- The anachronistic and contradictory laws on the book should be reformed. There can be a Law Commission undertaking to reform the IPC acts.
- Greater synergy between the Prosecutors and Police to enable better investigation and adjudication.
- New laws be passed to enable police to deal with sophisticated crimes like cyber crimes or organised transnational crimes.

TECHNOLOGICAL

- Police headquarters should be upgraded and equipped with latest communication

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means like walkie talkies, fiber optic cables

- Digital policing enabling citizens to register FIR's or apply for passports et al online.
- Dedicated and fully functional helpline number operated 24/7.
- Using technology like DNA, Forensics, Ballistics by setting up a dedicated resource wing for this.
- Setting up a database at national level with records of crimes (NCRB).

These reforms are sorely needed to keep the faith of the people in the Rule of Law and Democracy.

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14. Discuss the reasons behind private sector playing a merely peripheral role in defence manufacturing in India. Also, explain how the Draft Defence Production Policy, 2018 seeks to augment private sector participation in defence manufacturing in India. **(250 words) 15**

भारत में रक्षा विनिर्माण के क्षेत्र में निजी क्षेत्रक द्वारा अत्यंत गौण भूमिका निभाने के पीछे उत्तरदायी कारणों की चर्चा कीजिए। साथ ही, व्याख्या कीजिए कि किस प्रकार ड्राफ्ट डिफेंस प्रोडक्शन पॉलिसी, 2018 (रक्षा उत्पादन नीति मसौदा, 2018) भारत में रक्षा विनिर्माण के क्षेत्र में निजी क्षेत्रक की भागीदारी बढ़ाना चाहती है।

India is one of the largest arms importers in the world. Due to rising costs of imports and high Current Account Deficit, the govt. is pushing for making defence equipments in India.

The reason for Private Sector lagging have been :-

- Pvt Sector lacks technological know how.
- The Public Sector & DRDO, Def. Establishment Boards etc. are favoured in tenders awarded.
- The only customer for weapons in the Indian Army, there ~~are~~ is little to no export demand for these goods.
- Uncertainty in policy environment and extensive regulatory interference.
- The Army often rejects these weapons even when ~~established~~ manufactured by PSU's so the pvt. sector is wary of these.

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To overcome these the govt. has established a new Draft Defence Policy. The provisions of this are :-

- Private defence partners to play the role of system integrators and set up an extensive eco system comprising development partners, specialised vendors and supply partners.
- Promotion of exports of weapons (pvt) to be encouraged through govt to govt contacts and funding given by govt.
- Increase in automatic FDI cap.
- Govt. to take measures to promote Ease of Doing Business.
- Encouragement of the Armed Forces to procure goods from Start Ups and MSME establishments.

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- Innovation for Defence Excellence (iDex) has been envisaged to set up Defence Innovation Hubs throughout the country to provide necessary incubation and infrastructure support to start ups.

This industry-friendly policy is expected to augment private participation and improve infrastructure support.

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15. While India and Russia have enjoyed good relations since the Soviet era, relying on the past may not be enough to deal with shift in the relationship in light of the rapidly evolving geopolitical realities. Comment.

(250 words) 15

यद्यपि सोवियत युग से ही भारत और रूस के संबंध मधुर रहे हैं, तथापि अतीत पर निर्भरता तेज़ी से विकसित होती भू-राजनीतिक वास्तविकताओं के प्रकाश में, संबंधों में आये बदलाव से निपटने हेतु पर्याप्त नहीं भी हो सकती है। टिप्पणी कीजिए।

India and Russia have a long standing, tried and tested relationship harking back to the Treaty for Friendship and Cooperation signed in 1971. After the Cold War ended India as part of its Strategically Autonomous Outlook sought to improve ties with both Russia and the West and has largely succeeded in doing so. There has been growth in trade in both volume and domains ranging from Pharmaceuticals, Energy, Weapons, Agriculture etc. Russia is still the largest supplier of weapons to India and has cooperated in sharing

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technology as well like the Brahmos missile. Furthermore Russia has helped India gain membership in organisations like Shanghai Cooperation Organisation and is a key member of groupings like BRICS.

However the recent shift in geopolitics has led to some challenges in Indo Russian realations :-

- The US-Russia rivalry in Syria and Russian sanctions for its role in Ukraine (Crimea and MH17 bombing) have made their economy weak. This led to growing Russian-Chinese involvement which is concerning to India.
- US sanctions on Russia have led to roadblocks for India's deals such as for the S 30 anti missile system (As Indians could be sanctioned by US for not complying with them)

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- Growing Russian Pakistani military cooperation is of concerns.
- Russia has supported China led CPEC and BRO and called on India to join it.
- Growing troubles b/w the West and Russia have put India in an uncomfortable situation to pick sides.
- India's growing engagement with US in trade and even weapons related matters and Indian actions like joining the Quad have been viewed negatively by Russia.

Thus, there is growing evidence of a chill in relations despite the PM Modi's quote of 'One Old friend being better than two new friends'. It seems that while that message was meant to reassure Russia about India's value to the ties, it can be a hint to them to value India as well.

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16. In what ways has the engagement between India and its diaspora evolved over the years? What role can the Indian diaspora play in furthering and shaping India's foreign policy goals? **(250 words) 15**

भारत और इसके डायस्पोरा के बीच सहभागिता बीते वर्षों के दौरान किस तरह विकसित हुई है? भारत की विदेशी नीति के लक्ष्यों को आगे बढ़ाने और आकार देने में भारतीय डायस्पोरा क्या भूमिका निभा सकते हैं?

India is the country (acc. to International Migration Report) with the largest diaspora in the world. Dealing with this large and spread out diaspora has been a challenging but important arena for Indian Foreign Policy makers and the policies have evolved through the years :-

- In India's early years the engagement was limited to cultural ties. India PM Nehru advised the Indian diaspora to assimilate in their home countries and not to think of themselves as aliens. This was

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was followed by a non interventionist foreign policy.

- The hands off policy was put under strain in situations like Uganda where the then govt. ordered the mass expulsion of all ethnic Indians. Indian actions were limited to humanitarian actions.
- Over the years Indian Overseas business groups have been a factor in deepening India's ties with those countries.
- They are a source of investment in Indian concerns as well as skills.
- Growing economic and political clout of groups like Indian Americans has led to advancement of Indian national interest.
- They were a way to escape sanctions following Op Pokhran and the sanction put on India by buying bonds.

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The role played by Diaspora can be summarised as Building Transnational Networks ; Source of Funding & Investment; Remittances ; Lobbying ; India's Soft Power etc.

So the govt has reciprocated with :-

- Relaxation of visa norms and adoption of OCI, PIO cards with benefits therein.
- Improving Connectivity of flight with various countries and making the visa granting process less cumbersome.
- Pravasi Bharatiya Divas type of engagement with diaspora.
- Schemes like VAJRA where NRI's who have expertise in science can come and teach in India.

Such schemes need to be promoted and complaints of diaspora like bureaucratic inefficiency and red tapism need to be solved for India to be able to benefit from the unique advantage of the diaspora.

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17. Sluggish progress of the Doha round signals that the WTO is proving to be ineffective in promoting free trade. Identifying the factors behind this, comment on the relevance of WTO in present context. **(250 words) 15**

दोहा दौर की धीमी प्रगति संकेत करती है कि WTO, मुक्त व्यापार को प्रोत्साहित करने में अप्रभावी सिद्ध हो रहा है। इसके पीछे उत्तरदायी कारकों की पहचान करते हुए, वर्तमान संदर्भ में WTO की प्रासंगिकता पर टिप्पणी कीजिए।

WTO is a body concerned with promoting international trade and free, ~~and~~ fair and open markets.

The Doha Inter-Ministerial meeting round has proven to be a very challenging moment for WTO as it has turned out to be a division between Developed & Developing countries on

- Agricultural Subsidies: Developed nations want the developing nations to adhere to the amber, blue and red classification and stick to the 10% and 5% limit. The developing nations want a consensus on public stockholding issue (Now peace clause has also ended)
- Opening Agricultural Markets: Developing

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nation want the right to close exports or import when needed for food safety reasons whereas developed nations want to keep their massive subsidies on agriculture whilst opening trade barriers.

- IPR issue : The developed nations are in favour of stringent norms in IPR while India & other developing nations have been successful in compulsory licensing
- Trade in Services : India is desirous of more liberal norms for trade in services.
- Special & Differential Treatment : Developed nations agree to this in principle but want to divide the developing nations by differentiating in level of development b/w China, India and Sub Saharan nations for eg.

Besides these specific policy disagreements there has been growing backlash against globalisation and liberalisation.

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showcased by elections of protectionists.
The anti WTO stance of USA has culminated in erection of tariff and non tariff barriers, not ratifying new judges to be appointed on the arbitration panel of WTO (and trade wars). This has promoted regional and bilateral deals like RCEP.

However WTO is still relevant cause:-

- Regional deals are regionally limited. And have stringent (more than WTO) conditions on IPR or subsidies.
- Dispute resolution can be biased.
- India can better serve its interests in WTO than bilateral deals.
- Countries will suffer when global trade declines and becomes stratified.

Thus, if structural reforms to make WTO more responsive and relevant are undertaken then it can regain its preeminence in global discourse on free trade.

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18. India's engagement with its extended neighbourhood in West Asia has evolved into a 'Look West' approach in recent times. However, multiple faultlines in this volatile region require a balancing act on the part of India. Discuss **(250 words) 15**

पश्चिम एशिया में अपने विस्तारित पड़ोस के साथ भारत की सहभागिता हाल के दिनों में 'लुक वेस्ट' दृष्टिकोण के रूप में विकसित हुई है। हालांकि, इस अस्थिर क्षेत्र में उपस्थित कई फॉल्टलाइन्स भारत की ओर से एक संतुलनकारी कार्यवाही की मांग करते हैं। चर्चा कीजिए।

India's foreign policy initiative in the West Asia region is guided by a desire to best serve the interest of it population by fulfilling its energy needs; promoting FDI; safeguarding its diaspora.

That said, the region is extremely volatile with multiple axes of mutual antagonism emerging, religious wars, terrorism, revolutionary movement, sectarian differences etc. Sidestepping these faultlines is a tricky task for India as it tries to maintain the best possible relationship with the countries.

Earlier Indian involvement was not in the strategic dimension, India never interfered in inter

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country conflict and promoted peace. However with growing aspirations to be a super or regional power India's Look West approach now transcend more economics :-

- Use Diaspora as a strategic tool.
- Institutionalisation of security, defence and anti terror cooperation measures
- Having friendly relations with Saudi Arabia, Israel and Iran.

However we must be cognisant of the specific issues faced by India + USA and wider involvement in region.

- For eg. USA's anti Iran stance a being supported by Israel and SA. India has great stake in the Iranian energy resources and strategic interests too.
- Pakistan's closeness with Arab countries. India though has managed to isolate Pakistan on their state

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sponsored terrorism by ~~and~~ getting UAE to condemn it too.

- China's diplomatic initiatives in that region. Also their port in Djibouti.
- Proxy USA Russia conflicts in Syria or Iran-SA conflict in Yemen
- Israel and Palestine will remain a festering issue and India is desirous of ~~gee~~ good relations with both.
- The Asian Premium charged by OPEC countries.

The importance of West Asia to India cannot be overstated. India needs to pay sustained political and diplomatic attention to the region and should be aware of the continuously shifting quicksand that are always waiting for a single misstep.

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19. The rapid diffusion of Artificial Intelligence begets unique opportunities and challenges for India. Discuss. What can be done to address these challenges? **(250 words) 15**

आर्टिफिशियल इंटेलिजेंस (कृत्रिम बुद्धिमत्ता) का तीव्र प्रसार, भारत के लिए विशिष्ट अवसर और चुनौतियां उत्पन्न करता है। चर्चा कीजिए। इन चुनौतियों का समाधान करने के लिए क्या किया जा सकता है?

AI is a term given to programs or machines acting in a way that mimics human intelligence.

Long considered a pipe dream recent advances in tech are making AI not a proposal for the future but a reality of the present.

AI has great scope for India's development :-

- Its disruptive nature means that it'll spawn new industries and jobs. It can help address unemployment and economic growth challenges that way
- It has great scope for improving healthcare and education.
- India can become a world leader in AI by proper research focussed initiatives
- Self driving cars.

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- More efficient management of powergrids or railway/air traffic flow minimizing wastage and accidents
- AI can augment the offensive and defensive capabilities of Armed Forces

However it has some unique challenges too :-

- Regulatory challenges for the ethical and legal way of using AI.
- It can cause loss of massive amounts of jobs.
- This job loss will cause massive social disruption as people find it hard to change careers.
- Traditional capitalism with demand and supply of jobs will be disrupted as supply is now done by machines, robots, automation and AI. But this will lead to great ~~income~~ wealth disparity.

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- India lags behind developed nations in AI research due to lack of funding and awareness
- Indian software industry will be worst affected as their service oriented jobs can be taken over by AI.

The steps to address this are:

- National policy on AI. Research on implications and how to ~~stop~~ negate them
- AI adoption across industries to take the benefit from it.
- Consideration of Universal Basic Income (UBI)
- Adoption of AI subject in the curriculum.
- Funding to researchs and start ups in AI.

India must not be a 'luddite' and only focus on the ~~-ve~~ negative aspects of AI. Technology change is inevitable and India must ensure its' driving the change and not merely being driven by it.

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20. Water shortage in India has been sought to be addressed through various policy and technological interventions. Explain. Also, examine the benefits of desalination technology and the costs associated with it. **(250 words) 15**

भारत में विभिन्न नीतिगत और तकनीकी उपायों के माध्यम से जल की कमी की समस्या का समाधान करने के प्रयास किए जाते रहे हैं। व्याख्या कीजिए। साथ ही, विलवणीकरण प्रौद्योगिकी के लाभों एवं इससे संबद्ध लागतों का परीक्षण कीजिए।

India is blessed with many rivers and a bountiful monsoon. Yet its water needs are ever rising. A recent NITI Aayog report has showcased the bleak future of India as inter state rivers water disputes continue to percolate.

The govt has sought to address these by :-

- National Water Mission to conserve water, minimise wastage etc.
- Technological interventions such as real time monitoring of aquifiers.
- Effort on ground water conservation
- Rain Water Harvesting.
- Promoting traditional water conservation norms like Pana in Rajasthan.

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- Efficient agriculture by PMKSY.
- Tying up with Israel to leverage their expertise in micro-irrigation like drop or sprinkler irrigation

Desalination is a method very much in ~~og~~ vogue in water deficient regions close to the sea like Israel or UAE. As the name implies it is to do with purifying saline water of excess salt and sea minerals to make it fit for human use. The methods could be distillation, electrolysis etc.

The benefits of this are :-

- India has a long coastline of 7600 km with peninsular rivers having a high water demand and no perennial source. This tech could serve those coastal region.
- India is rapidly urbanising especially in port cities this could meet those needs.

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- Low ground water levels, insufficient and erratic rainfall means that a reliable source of water is needed (The SGA)

However this method is very costly, and the fossil fuel requirements are enough to make it currently financially unviable. The residue salts and minerals need to be disposed of safely. If they're dumped in the ocean they can change its salinity causing great harm to marine ecology and environment at large. If dumped on land it can cause salinity of land. Also the growing cost of water means that the rich would only afford it.

Hence, the govt. needs to promote research in a better form of desalination which can largely address the above concerns as India doesn't want to encounter a situation of 'Zero Hour' as in Cape Town, South Africa.

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GENERAL STUDIES (TEST CODE : 1429)

Name of Candidate	Nihal Randhawa		
Medium Eng./Hindi	Eng	Registration Number	58233
Center	N/A	Date	20-July-2019

INDEX TABLE

Q. No.	Maximum Marks	Marks Obtained
1	10	
2	10	
3	10	
4	10	
5	10	
6	10	
7	10	
8	10	
9	10	
10	10	
11	15	
12	15	
13	15	
14	15	
15	15	
16	15	
17	15	
18	15	
19	15	
20	15	

Total Marks Obtained:

Remarks:

INSTRUCTIONS

1. Do furnish the appropriate details in the answer sheet (viz. Name, Registration Number and Test Code).
   उत्तर पुस्तिका मे सूचनाएं भरना आवश्यक है (नाम, प्रश्न–पत्र कोड, विद्यार्थी क्रमांक आदि)।
2. There are **TWENTY** questions printed in **ENGLISH & HINDI**
   इसमें बीस प्रश्न हैं अंग्रेजी और हिन्दी में छपे हैं।
3. **All questions are compulsory.**
   सभी प्रश्न अनिवार्य हैं।
4. The number of marks carried by a question/part is indicated against it.
   प्रत्येक प्रश्न/भाग के अंक उसके सामने दिए गए हैं।
5. Answers must be written in the medium authorized in the Admission Certificate, which must be stated clearly on the cover of this Question-Cum-Answer (QCA) Booklet in the space provided. No marks will be given for answers written in medium other that the authorized one.
   प्रश्नो के उत्तर उसी माध्यम में लिखे जाने चाहिए जिसका उल्लेख आपके प्रवेश पत्र मे किया गया है और उस माध्यम का स्पष्ट उल्लेख प्रश्न–सह–उत्तर (क्यूसीए) पुस्तिका के मुख्य पृष्ठ पर अंकित निर्दिष्ट स्थान पर किया जाना चाहिए। उल्लिखित माध्यम के अतिरिक्त अन्य किसी माध्यम मे लिए गए उत्तर पर कोई अंक नही मिलेगे।
6. Word limit in questions, if specified, should be adhered to.
   प्रश्नो मे शब्द सीमा, जहाँ विनिर्दिष्ट है, का अनुसरण किया जाना चाहिए।
7. Any page or portion of the page left blank in the Question-Cum-Answer Booklet must be clearly struck off.
   उत्तर पुस्तिका मे खाली छोड़ा हुआ पृष्ठ या उसके अंश को स्पष्ट रूप से काटा जाना चाहिए।

16-B, 2nd Floor, Above National Trust Building, Bada Bazar Marg, Old Rajinder Nagar, Delhi-110060

Plot No. 857, 1st Floor, Banda Bahadur Marg (Opp Punjab & Sindh Bank), Dr. Mukherjee Nagar Delhi- 110009

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EVALUATION INDICATORS

1. Contextual Competence
2. Content Competence
3. Language Competence
4. Introduction Competence
5. Structure - Presentation Competence
6. Conclusion Competence

Overall Macro Comments / feedback / suggestions on Answer Booklet:

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.

6.

All the Best

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1. Illustrate how pressure groups have emerged as a strong mechanism for making democracy participatory and responsive. **(150 Words) 10 Marks**
उदाहरण प्रस्तुत करते हुए समझाइए कि किस प्रकार दबाव समूह, लोकतंत्र को सहभागी और अनुक्रियाशील बनाने हेतु एक सुदृढ़ तंत्र के रूप में उभरे हैं।

A Pressure Group is a collection of people with a common interest who attempt to realise their aims by lobbying the government or industry. They do not seek to ~~gain~~ come to power and use methods like protests, campaigns, awareness generation etc. to lobby.

Role in Making Democracy Participative

1) Citizens participation in policy making is enhanced as they can influence their elected representatives directly.

2) Democracy isn't ~~ra~~ merely a vote counting exercise and the pressure groups increase democracy participation to more than once in 5 years.

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3) The government is in touch with public opinions.

4) Niche opinions and minority interests are rescued from majoritarian suffocation as pressure group bring these to the forefront. For eg. The Naz Foundation which lobbies for LGBT rights.

5) Increases the diversity of ideologies present in the public space.

Role in Making Democracy Responsive

1) Platform for citizens to get their concerns heard and addressed.

2) Pressing issues can be addressed quickly as single issue groups (like environmental NGO's) with expertise are able to flag their concerns

3) Non Governmental Inputs from ~~labor~~ various groups like Policy Experts; Grassroot Movements; Labour Organisations etc. with stake and expertise enrich the policy formulations and implementation of the government.

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2. Explain the significance and controversies, if any, associated with the Article 35A of the Indian constitution. **(150 Words) 10 Marks**

भारतीय संविधान के अनुच्छेद 35A के महत्व और उससे संबद्ध विवादों, यदि कोई हो, की व्याख्या कीजिए।

Article 35 A of the Indian Constitution was an amendment done via Presidential Order which grants special privileges to the J&K state assembly to pass laws defining who is a 'Permanent Resident' of the state. It also allows them to grant certain privileges to the Permanent Residents like scholarships, residence rights, ~~post~~ property rights, public jobs etc.

Significance of 35-A

1) It comes from the ~~long~~ complicated history of J&K post independence and is an outcome of the ~~negot~~ deliberations of the negotiations between the J&K Constituent Assembly and the Indian govt.

2) It preserves the unique ethos of the state culture and the ideal of a kashmiri way

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of life and Kashmiriyat.

3) It reassures the residents who were worried about demographic change.

4) It was an important element of the autonomy given to the state ~~to~~ and as enshrined in the Delhi agreement.

Controversy about Art 35A

1) It is considered discriminatory towards non permanent residents as it creates a privileged class among Indian citizens

2) Critics allege that it has prevented full integration of the state with the union.

3) It denies ~~so~~ equality to women as Kashmiri women ~~are~~ marrying non permanent residents lose their right to own or inherit property.

4) There are doubts raised on its constitutionality as it was never discussed in Parliament.

With these points in mind there needs to be an outreach over the need for amendment or repeal with the Kashmiri people and steps can be taken if a consensus emerges.

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3. The ambiguity surrounding lobbying in India is further exacerbated by the country's endemic corruption. In this context, critically examine the case for legalising lobbying in India. **(150 words) 10 Marks**

भारत में लॉबिंग को लेकर विद्यमान अस्पष्टता देश में व्याप्त भ्रष्टाचार से और भी गंभीर हो जाती है। इस संदर्भ में, भारत में लॉबिंग को वैध बनाने के प्रश्न का समालोचनात्मक परीक्षण कीजिए।

Lobbying is the practise of convincing the government to change its policies in a way to benefit your interests. It's an umbrella terms including allo sorts of activities from advocacy by NGO's to potentially illegal activities like luxurious holidays or luxury items.

In India lobbying is endemic and undespread but also hidden. There is no law to regulate lobbying but it isn't expressly disallowed ether. It happens clandestinely only coming into the public consciousness when exposes like the Radia Tapes exposes the influence of Professional Lobbyists among the nexus of Politicians - Industrialists - Journalists.

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Seeing this there is a case to be made for legalising lobbying as:

1) Legislation will clearly define 'Acceptable Lobbying' and also define what is unacceptable.

2) The experience of countries like the US show that regulated lobbying provides greater transparency about the motivations behind policies and helps the voters make informed voting choices.

3) This transparency will help regulate the hitherto unquantified money influence on the government.

However, there are certain pitfalls of this approach. It increases the influence of moneyed groups and interests disproportionately leading to fears that policies like environment protection might be diluted due to corporate lobbying.

Thus, a mature democracy like India should try and bring varied interest groups into the open and as lobbying is an intrinsic part of this it should be ~~legal~~ regulated but allowed.

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4. Independent India adopted a modified version of the Westminster model of government. In this context discuss the commonalities and differences between the political system of India and UK. **(150 Words) 10 Marks**
स्वतंत्र भारत ने सरकार की वेस्टमिंस्टर प्रणाली का एक संशोधित संस्करण अपनाया। इस संदर्भ में, भारत और UK की राजनीतिक व्यवस्था के मध्य समानताओं और विभेदों पर चर्चा कीजिए।

India's Polity has been inspired by the British Westminister Parliamentary model due to influence of years of limited self rule due to various British Indian laws like the GOI Act 1935, the Morley Minto and the 1919 reforms etc.

Commonalities

1) 2 tiered parliamentary system with the stronger Lok Sabha and the comparatively weaker Rajya Sabha.
2) Fusion of executive with the legislature with the executive being responsible to the legislature.
3) The concept of Collective Responsibility of the Council of Ministers.
4) The institution of Prime Minister as 'Primus Inter Pares' who controls the council and by extension the government.

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5) Similar procedures for legislation, adjournments, Budgetary Scrutiny ~~etc.~~, No Confidence motion etc.

Differences

1) India has a written constitution unlike Britain.

2) UK is a unitary state while India is federal.

3) UK has Parliamentary Sovereignity unlike India.

4) The head of the state (de jure) in India is the President (Republican model) while that of the UK is the Queen (Monarchy).

5) No institution of the Shadow Cabinet in India.

6) The British speaker resigns from their party.

7) The British PM can only belong to the House of Commons unlike the Indian PM.

8) The institution of the whip is common in both but the Disqualification for disobedience to party orders in 10th schedule of Indian Constitution is more onerous here.

Thus, we can see that the British system was adopted for reasons like convenience but it was also adapted to work in Indian conditions

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5. Political parties are an integral part of the democratic set up of India. In the context, discuss the need for strengthening the process of institutionalization of intra-party democracy in political parties in India. **(150 Words) 10 Marks**

राजनीतिक दल भारत की लोकतांत्रिक व्यवस्था के अभिन्न अंग हैं। इस संदर्भ में, भारत में राजनीतिक दलों में अंत: दलीय लोकतंत्र को संस्थागत किए जाने की प्रक्रिया को सुदृढ़ करने की आवश्यकता पर चर्चा कीजिए।

Political parties play a key role in India's democracy by Providing a voice to people ; India's interest aggregation ; Forming governments ; Facilitating Electoral Participation etc. The nature of India's democracy has been shaped to a large extent by the nature of its political parties

With this in mind it's very important that there be intra party democracy because:

1) Most Indian political parties resemble oligarchies or family held parties with very little chance for fresh blood at the top.

2) India has no tradition of intra party democracy and lacks such laws enforcing it as is the case in countries like USA.

The merits of intra party democracy are:

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1) Increases the participation of workers in the party thereby strengthening democracy.
2) Keeps a check on nepotism, money power or muscle power politics and promotes politics of ideology
3) Provides space for internal dissent thereby promoting dissent externally.
4) It strengthens the parties in the long run thereby providing voters with a healthy and viable options.
5) This will ultimately strengthen the average Indian's interest in democracy ~~and~~.

There have been recommendations from the Election Commission to promote this by:

1) Making registered parties hold elections to party posts.
2) Creating a written constitution for parties.
3) ~~Co~~ Encouraging the parties to create a culture of decision making by voting and taking the views of party workers into account.

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6. It is of paramount importance to ensure that the Election Commission of India (ECI) be fully insulated from political pressure to maintain the purity of elections. In this context, discuss the need to have a relook at the process of appointment and removal of election commissioners to the ECI.

(150 Words) 10 Marks

चुनावों की शुचिता बनाए रखने के लिए यह सुनिश्चित करना सर्वाधिक महत्वपूर्ण है कि भारत निर्वाचन आयोग (ECI) राजनीतिक दबाव से पूर्णतया मुक्त रहे। इस संदर्भ में, ECI के निर्वाचन आयुक्तों की नियुक्ति और पदच्युति की प्रक्रिया पर पुनर्विचार करने की आवश्यकता पर चर्चा कीजिए।

The Election Commission of India is a constitutional body as per Art 324 of the constitution whereby the responsibility of holding elections to the Parliament, State Legislatures as well as to the post of President and Vice President is on it.

To hold free and fair elections it is vitally important that the body be free from external pressure. The constitutional protections due to the Chief Election Commission are:-

1) Security of tenure, upto the age of 65 years or 6 years from appointment.

2) Can only be removed on like grounds as that of a Supreme Court judge i.e. through impeachment.

3) His appointment conditions like salary can't be changed to his disadvantage post appointment.

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The appointment and removal of election commissioners though is a matter of concern:

1) Appointed by the executive ~~and~~ without concurrence of the CEC. Can be removed without impeachment and the CEC can only recommend their removal.

2) There is no bar on further appointment by the government to the EC's.

This is problematic because the decisions of the Commission are taken by majority vote and the EC are subject to greater influence from the government than the CEC is.

The following steps could remedy this:

1) The government can make a law formalising the appointment and removal process of the EC's and providing them equal protection.

2) The appointment could be via a collegium consisting of the Leader of Opposition or the Chief Justice so that ~~on~~ the ~~and~~ unbiased nature of the commission is maintained.

It is important not just that the EC be unbiased but also that it appear to be unbiased.

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7. In post-liberalised India, it is imperative that the role of state be that of a facilitator, and not one of a regulator. Analyse. **(150 words) 10 Marks**

उदारीकरण के पश्चात् के भारत में, यह अत्यावश्यक है कि राज्य की भूमिका एक सुविधाप्रदाता की हो, न कि एक नियामक की। विश्लेषण कीजिए।

After the reforms of 1991 Indias' Private Sector has increased rapidly in size and function and with it the Public Sector has been diminished. The role of government, earlier was that of a 'Cradle to Grave' service provider but it has changed to one of a regulator and facilitator but the balance between both is hard to achieve

The benefits of ~~this~~ facilitation are:

1) It leaves the market forces free to create wealth and reward innovation.

2) It has resulted in rapid growth and massive increase in number of people lifted from extreme poverty (nearly 270 million from 2008 to 2018).

3) Provided greater choice to Indian consumers from liberalisation of imports.

4) The improvement in 'Ease of Doing Business' indicators (Facilitator of the Private Sector) indicates more investment, industry & jobs etc

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5) The inefficient and costly Public Sector has been rationalised freeing up fiscal space for social development schemes.

6) ~~Better regulation that~~ However, there are certain drawbacks to not being a regulator like:

1) The 2008 financial crisis showed that better regulations in India prevented a huge crash.

2) Regulation prevents monopolies and crony capitalism providing all the benefits of a free market to consumers. ~~and~~

3) Regulation of essential service like electricity, water etc ensure that no citizen is left without access to them on account of high costs.

Thus, the need of the hour is for the government to become a facilitator by providing public goods like Human Capital, Infrastructure, Law and Order etc. At the same time independent regulators must be empowered to prevent ~~an~~ unhealthy practices in any sector.

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8. By providing new pools of leadership talent, lateral entry will help in addressing the most crucial challenges that the civil services in India currently face. Critically evaluate. **(150 words) 10 Marks**

प्रतिभावान नेतृत्वकर्ताओं के नए समुच्चय प्रदान कर, पार्श्व प्रवेश भारत में सिविल सेवाओं के समक्ष वर्तमान समय में व्याप्त सर्वाधिक महत्वपूर्ण चुनौतियों को दूर करने में सहायता करेगा। समालोचनात्मक मूल्यांकन कीजिए।

Lateral entry scheme proposes to induct new talent into the middle or upper level bureaucracy from outside (private sector) for a stipulated period of time.

This is supposed to address the crucial challenges facing civil services:

Generalists are unable to effectively handle rapidly changing technologically driven world. The domain specialists from private sector or academia can help in this regard.

Time driven promotions and career progression engender lethargy and laissez faire attitude. A fresh induction of talent can provide the necessary boost and motivation.

The fresh talent can provide a radical new outlook to the system. The private industry and government synergy will increase and this will enable government to function as a facilitator of growth and development.

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4) There is shortage of officers at the mid level which can be made up for by lateral entry. For eg. The shortage of IFS (Indian Foreign Service) officers ~~was to be~~ could be addressed, as per recommendation of Parliamentary Committee, by lateral entry of experts.

However, there are certain apprehensions that should be addressed before whole scale adoption:

1) Bypassing UPSC will lead to suspicions about the bias in selection of those entrants.
2) Frequent Private-Government links might lead to crony capitalism and lax regulation.
3) The short time employment would lead to difficulties in ensuring accountability. They would also be ~~un~~ unaware of the practical ~~nature~~ nuances of government policy implementation.
4) It could be seen as a means to bypass reservation.

The government must ensure that transparent and meritorious process is followed. Politicisation of the bureaucracy is to be avoided. If those concerns are addressed then lateral entry might turn out to be a boon.

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9. Discuss the need for an effective and functional working relationship between Gram Panchayats and SHGs. How can an efficient synergy between the two be achieved? (150 words) 10 Marks

ग्राम पंचायतों और SHGs के मध्य एक प्रभावी एवं कार्यात्मक कार्यकारी संबंध की आवश्यकता पर चर्चा कीजिए। दोनों के मध्य एक कार्यक्षम सहक्रियता किस प्रकार प्राप्त की जा सकती है?

India has had a fruitful experience with SHG's especially in the field of economic empowerment with bank linkages however there has been a lacunae (as observed by the ARC report) in terms of linkages between SHG's and Gram Panchayats (GP)

Benefits of such linkages

1) GP suffers from implementation of schemes problem which can be alleviated by such a linkage as:

a) Fisal deficit can be made up by the SHG Bank Linkage program. The loan repayment rate (>90%) of SHG's along with the backing of GP can make financing of schemes viable.

b) GP cannot implement certain schemes due to lack of trained and capable manpower. They cannot hire their own staff but SHG's can act as the implementators.

2) Complementarity of aims like empowerment of women, creating social capital, development etc

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3) SHG's can benefit from the democratic nature of GP's.

Steps to achieve such a synergy

1) Devolution of greater financial power to the Panchayat level alongwith greater autonomy to utilise such funds.

2) Inculcating transparency in such dealings by provision of social audit.

3) GP's can focus on strengthening the technical capability of the SHG's to carry out their complementary aims.

4) Awareness generation by the State Rural Livelihood Mission (SRLM) about the potential of this synergy and highlighting success stories.

The positive outcome of this combination has been seen in the success stories of Andhra Pradesh and Kerala. With suitable modifications it needs to be tried in other parts of the country as well.

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10. Public service delivery in India has long been marred by various issues leading to poor service delivery outcomes. While discussing the reasons for the same, suggest ways to make public service delivery more efficient.

(150 words) 10 Marks

भारत में सार्वजनिक सेवा वितरण दीर्घकाल से विभिन्न समस्याओं से ग्रसित रहा है जिसका परिणाम निम्नस्तरीय सेवा वितरण है। इसके कारणों पर चर्चा करते हुए, सार्वजनिक सेवा वितरण को अधिक कुशल बनाने के उपायों का सुझाव दीजिए।

Poor public service delivery has long been the bane of governmental development and welfare schemes. India often fails in ensuring access, quality, reliability and effectiveness due to poor delivery.

Causes of Poor Public Service Delivery

Human Capital weaknesses in terms of lack of competence of bureaucrats; poor formulation of policies; organisational weaknesses; weak civil society and poor awareness of their rights and entitlements among the proposed beneficiaries.

Endemic corruption and inadequate funding.

Lack of accountability ~~corrupt~~ or deterrence due to weak anti corruption laws and time bound promotion.

Lack of incentives to perform one's duty.

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Ways to make amends

Empowering the civil society and the citizens to hold the government accountable via laws like RTI; policies like Citizens Charter and Social Audits etc.

Usage of e-governance to increase transparency and facilitate goodgovernance

Capacity building of the government machinery by focusing on training of government official as well as reforms in the bureaucratic structure.

Increased decentralization of policy formulation and greater flexibility in implementation.

Usage of anti corruption measures like promoting the JAM trinity and direct benefit transfers.

The proof of the pudding is in the eating - therefore as important as the right policies is the correct public service delivery mechanisms to ensure development.

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(इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

11. Highlighting different Alternate Dispute Resolution (ADR) mechanisms available in India, explain their importance. Also, mention different measures that have been adopted to further improve the framework of ADR in India. **(250 Words) 15 Marks**

भारत में उपलब्ध विभिन्न वैकल्पिक विवाद समाधान (ADR) तंत्रों पर प्रकाश डालते हुए, उनके महत्व की व्याख्या कीजिए। साथ ही, भारत में ADR के ढांचे में आगे और सुधार लाने के लिए अपनाए गए विभिन्न उपायों का भी उल्लेख कीजिए।

Alternate Dispute Resolution (ADR) mechanisms are alternatives to the traditional justice system for settling disputes. These are usually quicker than traditional methods and involve non criminal matters.

Types of ADR mechanisms:

Conciliation: An outside mediator helps settle civil disputes by ~~consens~~ forging a consensus decision.

Arbitration: Both parties agree on ~~abidin~~ pleading their case before an outside neutral third party and agree to abide by his decision. The 3rd party is usually fixed at the time of signing the contract.

Mediation: A mediator tries to resolve the problems and thereby remove the whole basis of the dispute. If no compromise is reached then other measures are adopted

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4) Lok Adalat: Provided for under the Legal Services Act, it is a mobile civil court which tries to resolve disputes using conciliation and the conciliator is usually a person with a legal background.

5) Nyaya Panchayats: Consist of traditional customs which have been reconstituted at the grassroots level to quickly mediate between 2 disputing parties.

The benefits of ADR mechanisms

1) Helps lower the burden on the overstretched legal system by reducing the inflow of cases.
2) Provides for a quicker resolution to both the parties.
3) The mediation and conciliation techniques reduce the bad blood of a normal case in the 2 parties and society as a whole.
4) Prevents people from taking justice in their own hands as quick, easy and inexpensive methods are available.

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Measures adopted to improve the framework of ADR in India -

1) Law Commission recommendations to inform courts to explore various alternatives to litigations at the start of a case.
2) India's legal structure has been amended to become closer to International norms on arbitration for contracts.
3) Creation of family courts throughout India to preemptively address family disputes.
4) Passing Legal Services Act which creates Lok Adalats.
5) Awareness camps to increase popularity of these.

To improve public confidence in Law and Order capabilities of the state these measures are a boon as they help ensure quick access to justice. They also de-congest the courts to deal with criminal and thorny civil cases. ADR methods should be adopted whole scale as quickly as possible.

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12. Success of the institutions of local self-governance depends largely on the attitude of state governments. Discuss in the context of constitutional provisions and recent experience of the working of these institutions in India. **(250 Words) 15 Marks**

स्थानीय स्व-शासन की संस्थाओं की सफलता मुख्य रूप से राज्य सरकारों की प्रवृत्ति पर निर्भर करती है। संवैधानिक प्रावधानों और भारत में इन संस्थानों के कामकाज संबंधी हालिया अनुभव के संदर्भ में चर्चा कीजिए।

The 73rd and 74th Constitutional Amendments realised the objective of the DPSP to ensure democratic decentralisation by creating Gram Panchayats and Urban Local Bodies. This 3rd tier of governance would have its own position in the ~~dem~~ federal structure with clearly defined functions and powers. However its success to a large extent depends upon the role of the states because:

1) It is the choice of the state legislature to devolve adequate powers, functions, roles, responsibilities and finances to the 3rd tier.

2) Institutions like the State Finance Commission, State Election Commissions are largely influenced by the state government and

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their proper functioning is necessary for success of ~~those progra~~ these 3rd tier institutions.

3) The responsibility of giving a practical shape to the constitutional provisions rests upon the state.

Recent experiences of States' Role

1) Most states are reluctant to devolve adequate powers as well as delegate functions to these.

2) The functioning of ~~SE~~ State Finance Commission is disappointing. Their reports are delayed and 'Action taken Report' isn't tabled before the legislature.

3) Few states have followed the recommendations given in 10th and 11th schedule of the constitution by devolving these.

4) The local self government institutions are dominated by the bureaucracy who are given posts of importance when it comes to implementation.

5) There is a political touch to the elections with the ruling party often using underhanded tactics to win them.

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Dominance of Caste, Class and Patriarchy in their functioning.

The steps that can be taken to realise their true potential are:

State governments must delegate the responsibilities mentioned in the 11th and 12th schedules to the 3rd tier. For eg Kerala's experience

The state must allow the bodies to collect taxes as well as fees on services.

~~Strengthen~~ Improve functioning of SFC and SEC as well as follow their recommendations when it comes to grants.

Increase synergy between bureaucracy and the 3rd tier. This addresses manpower crunch as well as capacity deficit.

Simplify the governance process by mapping out the function, finances and functionaries as recommended by the Aiyar Committee.

This way we can realise the full potential of this idea of decentralisation of power to the ground level.

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13. Right to freedom of religion cannot be allowed to deny right to equality and individual dignity. Discuss in the light of constitutional provisions and recent judicial pronouncements. **(250 Words) 15 Marks**

धर्म की स्वतंत्रता के अधिकार को समानता और व्यक्तिगत गरिमा के अधिकार को नकारने की अनुमति नहीं दी जा सकती है। संवैधानिक प्रावधानों और हाल की न्यायिक घोषणाओं के आलोक में चर्चा कीजिए।

Right to Freedom of Religion is a fundamental part of the Indian Constitution. The Preamble guarantees liberty to practise one's religion. The Art 14 gives the fundamental right to a person to be treated equally regardless of religion. Art 15 (and Art 21) guarantees non-discrimination. Art 25 guarantees the right to practise, profess and propagate one's religion. Art 26-28 guarantee religious institutions various rights over their practises, management of religious affairs provided they satisfy 3 criterion → Public Order, Health and Morality.

However, recently certain rights given to religious communities have been found to be at variance with fundamental rights given to individuals. Such as:

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1) Mumbai High Court judgement allowing women access to Shani Temple and the Haji Ali Dargah.

2) Supreme Court verdict allowing woman devotees of any age access to the Sabrimala Shrine.

3) Supreme Court verdict banning Triple Talaq as a form of divorce.

In the 1st and 2nd we can see that the traditional customs and fundamental rights (25-28) guaranteeing them are ~~under to~~ in conflict with Art 15 which bars discrimination on the basis of gender. The SC verdict tries to draw a balance between protecting the 'Essential Parts' of a religion (which the SC defines and accepts that should not be changed) and the other parts which ~~cannot~~ can be changed.

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In the (3rd) the SC again views this from the lens of Gender Equality. ~~and~~ It also finds that Triple Talaq isn't an essential part of the Islamic religion.

Thus, we can see that there is a very tricky balance when it comes to guaranteeing both freedom of individuals as well as freedom of religion. The Supreme Court has opted to uphold progressive notions of gender justice and expanded the protections available under Art 21 (Right to Liberty and Life) by its 'Ess Essential Parts' doctrine.

This positive ~~view~~ obligation of the State will, it is hoped, help protect the fundamental rights and freedoms of every individual without undue interference in the rights given to freedom of religious beliefs.

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14. Identify the key areas of reforms required in the judicial system in India. In this context, examine the significance of the idea of putting in place an All-India Judicial Service. **(250 Words) 15 Marks**

भारत में न्यायिक प्रणाली में आवश्यक सुधारों के प्रमुख क्षेत्रों की पहचान कीजिए। इस संदर्भ में, एक अखिल भारतीय न्यायिक सेवा स्थापित करने के विचार के महत्व का परीक्षण कीजिए।

According to the National Judicial Data Grid there are more than 29 million cases pending at just the District Court level. This has made Indians mistrust the judiciary as they perceive it to be too complex, time consuming, and expensive to function.

Key Areas of Reform

1) Judiciary is facing an acute manpower crisis. Law ministry data shows that there is a shortfall of nearly 6000 judges.
2) The appointments process of judges to SC and HC is considered opaque and potentially open to abuse in the form of corruption, nepotism and favouritism.
3) Judicial Backlog prevents speedy resolution of new cases as well.

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4) Corruption in the judicial staff who frequently use red-tapism to slow down trials and demand compensation.

5) Poor ~~do~~ judicial infrastructure and lack of usage of e-Governance tools like digitisation of cases or online ways to view progress.

6) The government is the biggest litigant, responsible for nearly 50% of the cases.

7) Criminal justice system reforms are needed as the police investigation is often not of the standard required for conviction speedy.

To combat these there have been suggestion given by various Law Commissions ~~and SC~~ to set up an All India Judicial Service. They would recruit judges ~~at~~ from an All India exam and ~~allo~~ allot them as district judges. The merits of this are:

1) Objectivity, Transparency and Merit based approach in appointment of judges.

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2) Greatest possible pool of talent for selection.
3) Uniformity in quality of judges across India.
4) Reduction in vacancies and pendency.

However this isn't a panacea for all ills:
1) States argue it is against the federal structure.
2) It might be perceived as eroding the independence of the judiciary.
3) It will not address the issues of criminal justice system reforms; Shoddy Police Investigations: Archaic and Complex laws; Lack of infrastructure; Government Litigations etc.
4) A national exam may be ignorant of the State laws and Customs.

AIJS can only succeed if it's a part of other much needed reforms. It can help in improving the quality of justice at the lower courts level and that is why the SC too has favoured it.

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15. While there are existing laws for the same, substantial efforts still need to be undertaken to prohibit people with criminal antecedents from entering into politics. Discuss in context of the problem of criminalization of politics in India and resulting issues. **(250 words) 15 Marks**

यद्यपि इस हेतु कानून विद्यमान हैं, तथापि आपराधिक पृष्ठभूमि वाले लोगों का राजनीति में प्रवेश रोकने के लिए अभी भी काफी प्रयास किए जाने की आवश्यकता है। भारत में राजनीति के अपराधीकरण की समस्या और परिणामी मुद्दों के संदर्भ में चर्चा कीजिए।

There are certain legal provisions barring criminals from contesting elections and the major ones are:

1) The RPA, 1951 bars people convicted ~~and~~ for more than 2 years from contesting elections.

2) Serving MP's and MLA's who have been convicted in office will be immediately disqualified.

3) Fast track courts have been set up to deal with cases involving legislators.

4) The SC has made it mandatory for people contesting elections to disclose their and their immediate family's assets, income as well as any pending cases or convictions.

5) Politicians convicted of certain offences like

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~~to~~ promoting enmity between communities, promoting social evils like Dowry or Sati etc

However, these safeguards have proven inadequate at preventing Criminalisation of Politics. According to the report of Association for Democratic Reforms (ADR) the present Lok Sabha has the highest percentage of MP's with criminal cases against them.

Reasons for Criminalisation

1) Expensive elections require candidates with black money ~~and~~ from a criminal background.

2) Political parties frequently give ~~a~~ tickets to those with a criminal background.

3) Voters often vote on the basis of caste or religion or ~~or~~ regional identities rather than on the character of the candidate.

4) ~~Reason~~ Proliferation of bogus cases against rival candidates has led to a state where voters find it hard to distinguish between actual criminal conduct and vendetta fake cases. Pendency of trials compounds this.

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5) Politicians in power use their clout to negatively influence the criminal justice system and get off scot free.

Way Forward

1) Reforms in Electoral Funding especially transparency related ones bringing down the need for black money
2) Reducing pendency of cases involving legislators using fast track courts proposed by the SC.
3) Awareness generation among voters about the history of the candidates as provided for by the Model Code of Conduct of the EC.
4) Political parties should uphold the highest ideals by promoting internal democracy and reducing tickets to criminals.
5) Strict anti corruption vigilance to examine disproportionate rise in asset of legislators.
6) Media should play an unbiased and responsible role in its coverage of candidates during elections.

If criminalisation of our politics is not checked ~~it will~~ our democracy runs the risk of becoming an oligarchy.

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16. On the recent World Press Freedom Index (WPFI) India ranks 140. Elucidate the significance of media in a democracy like India. Identify the major issues affecting the media in contemporary times. In this context, enumerate the measures to address these issues. **(250 Words) 15 Marks**

हाल ही के विश्व प्रेस स्वतंत्रता सूचकांक (WPFI) में भारत 140वें स्थान पर है। भारत जैसे लोकतंत्र में मीडिया के महत्व को स्पष्ट कीजिए। समकालीन समय में मीडिया को प्रभावित करने वाले प्रमुख मुद्दों की पहचान कीजिए। इस संदर्भ में, इन मुद्दों का समाधान करने हेतु उपायों को सूचीबद्ध कीजिए।

India ~~media~~ has displayed worrying trends when it comes to its rankings in global press freedom indexes like the WPFI ranking of 140.

This is undesirable because of the significance of the media :

1) To enable greater awareness among readers.

2) Political awareness increases by media reportage about :-
   1) Policy formulations
   2) Implementation issues, positive and negative,
   3) Speeches of politicians, their promises as well as political manifestos.
   4) News about election dates, results and also investigative journalism of any lacunae in the process

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3) Keeps a check on the government by providing factual reportage on its performance. ~~and~~

4) Editorials by eminent thinkers enrich democracy by providing diversity of ideas, criticisms and suggestions to the state.

These factors help make democracy an informed choice from the voters rather than just a performance of voting. It strengthens as well as deepens democracy.

Major Issues affecting Media

1) Perceived bias in media with media houses overtly or covertly aligning with particular parties leading to biased reporting and even factually incorrect coverage. This leads to loss of trust by consumers.

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2) Presence of laws in India - that could potentially affect unbiased reporters like Sedition Law, Parliamentary Priveleges, Contempt of Court etc.

3) Rise of social media making print based and traditional media less remunerative.

4) Reliance on sources of funding from ~~or~~ corporates ~~which~~ and on governments (through advertisements) which provides them with control over the media.

5) Rise in incidences of killings of journalists. For eg the murder of Gauri Lankesh.

The steps to address these would be:

1) Greater awareness among the stakeholders of the importance of media and a conscious effort to reverse the trend.

2) Rationalisation of the laws to prevent any punishment for ~~fair and~~ all but the most egregious abuse of media reporting.

The media is called the 4th pillar of Indian democracy and its health and vitality is essential to ensure good governance.

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17. Explain why the doctrine of separation of powers is considered as an indispensable part of a democratic setup. Also, discussing this doctrine in the context of India, explain the principle of 'checks and balances'.
(250 words) 15 Marks

व्याख्या कीजिए कि शक्ति के पृथक्करण के सिद्धांत को लोकतांत्रिक व्यवस्था का एक अनिवार्य घटक क्यों माना जाता है। साथ ही, भारत के संदर्भ में इस सिद्धांत पर चर्चा करते हुए, 'नियंत्रण और संतुलन' के सिद्धांत की भी व्याख्या कीजिए।

Any States' role can be distilled into three parts: Judicial; legislative and Executive. For a modern democratic country with Rule of Law an indispensable condition for ~~it~~ sustaining this is ~~the~~ adherence to the principle of doctrine of 'Seperation of Powers' where the 3 roles are essayed by separate institutions.

Need for Seperation of Powers

1) It prevents rise of authoritarianism and dictatorship.

2) The independence of Judiciary from Legislative and Executive is necessary for providing checks and balances.

3) A principle of Rule of Law is that everyone is equal before the law. With separation of powers the law makers know

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that they'll be subject to the same law

5) This doctrine helps keep executive tyranny in check by making it accountable to the legislature and judicial scrutiny.

In the Indian context the system we follow is not of strict compartmentalisation like in the US but one of overlap of functions and we rely on checks and balances

Executive Scrutiny

1) The Government is responsible to the Lok Sabha and only functions as long as they enjoy its confidence.

2) The Supreme Court and other courts can rule on the legality of any executive action

Legislative Scrutiny

1) The judiciary can adjudicate on the constitutionality of ~~a~~ an act.

2) The parliamentary system envisages that the legislature and executive work in tandem.

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Judicial Scrutiny

1) The executive has an effective veto on the appointment of a high court judge or a supreme court judge even though they cannot nominate or select judges.

2) The impeachment process of a judge is via the legislative wing.

Thus, we can see that in India there is the process of checks and balances with each branch of the state able to act independently as well as controlling the other. This helps preserve a balance and maintain democracy.

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18. Government schemes in India have long suffered from monitoring and implementation challenges. What steps have been taken by the government recently in this regard? Also discuss the potential of social audit in addressing these challenges. **(250 words) 15 Marks**

भारत में सरकारी योजनाएं दीर्घकाल से निगरानी और कार्यान्वयन संबंधी चुनौतियों से प्रभावित रही हैं। हाल में सरकार द्वारा इस संबंध में क्या कदम उठाए गए हैं? साथ ही इन चुनौतियों को दूर करने में सामाजिक लेखापरीक्षा की क्षमता पर भी चर्चा कीजिए।

There's a long standing saying that Indian voters only desire 'Roti, Kapda and Makaan' which shows that though every governments focusses since 1947 on those ~~these~~ schemes they still aren't fully implemented and hence are an electoral vote gaining plank.

This highlights that the major problem with Indian governmental policies remains implementation and monitoring rather than design. The reasons for this are many:

1) Corruption at all levels hindering implementation
2) Capacity deficit of the government to implement ambitious schemes.
3) Lack of funds to properly implement some schemes.
4) Lack of accountability coupled with lack of reward for the implementors.

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5) Lack of awareness of their rights and entitlements among the would be benefactors.

6) Poorly designed schemes with over centralisation proving unsuitable for the diversity of India.

7) Lack of grievance redressal mechanisms.

Some steps taken by the Government

1) Implementation of Right to Information Act whereby citizens have the right to demand information ~~for~~ from the government increasing transparency.

2) Introduction of Citizens Charter which defines the expected service delivery standards promoting accountability.

3) Adoption of Outcome Budgeting and Zero Based Budgeting which help direct money fruitfully and also get better implementation.

4) Implementation of ~~digital~~ Digital India which

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proactively provides statistics about government programs. For eg Swach Bharat Abhiyan online dashboard which shows the rate of progress and the expected work left.

The Social Audit system also provides an innovative solution. It makes the intended recipients of the government policy directly responsible for auditing it. This creates a bottom down accountability ~~and~~ cycle rather than a top down one and rewards are:

- Participatory and Inclusive; Innovative decentralisation can occur; keeps the beneficiaries ~~source~~ engaged and transforms them from grateful to entitled etc.

Yet, this isn't a panacea. The social audit suffers from narrow focus, lack of ability of the society to properly audit technical and financial aspects and is informal making a big picture view and comparison hard. It needs to be used in conjunction with other measures

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19. In the context of recent concerns related to functioning of NGOs in India, discuss the need for self-regulatory guidelines and transparency mechanisms to restore the credibility of voluntary organisations. (250 words) 15 Marks

भारत में NGOs के कार्यकरण से संबंधित हाल की चिंताओं के संदर्भ में, स्वैच्छिक संगठनों की विश्वसनीयता को पुनर्स्थापित करने के लिए स्व-नियामकीय दिशा-निर्देशों और पारदर्शिता तंत्रों की आवश्यकता पर चर्चा कीजिए।

A recent report by the Intelligence Bureau of India showed that merely 10% of the 31 lakh NGO's in India have filed annual returns. This coupled with other financial concerns has raised the question of regulation of NGO's.

Some of the concerns are:

1) Foreign funding of NGO's where they indulge in activities harmful to the national interest. For eg. Some western countries funded NGO's have been complicit in the protests against the Kudankulam Nuclear reactor which is supported by Russia.

2) The use of NGO's as a front for illegal activities like Hawala funds transfer, money laundering etc.

3) Financial improprieties by NGO's with donations

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or even government funds.

Need for Regulation and Transparency

1) The lack of trust from the activities of a few VO's / NGO's harms the credibility of the whole sector.

2) The important role of civil society means that they have a responsibility of self regulation to show that their internal functioning is above reproach.

3) Greater transparency will encourage public donations to the better managed NGO's. It will also help the government identify those NGO's who can be 'Partners in Development and Welfare' and provide ~~for~~ public funds to them.

4) The ~~ones~~ ones indulging in illegal activities can be targetted and closed down if regulation is increased.

5) The unorganised nature of the sector necessitates a central law to provide

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uniformity of regulatory mechanisms.

Seeing these the government should after wide consultation with stakeholders and the VO's groups, ~~and~~ enact a regulatory law which is not too stringent but ~~to~~ ~~too~~ promotes transparency and a culture of self regulation.. It shouldn't curtail the independence of the NGO's rather should promote the civil society.

In this regard the recent Supreme Court ~~order~~ suggestion to enact such regulation to the central government should be the opportunity to take steps ~~on~~ mentioned above..

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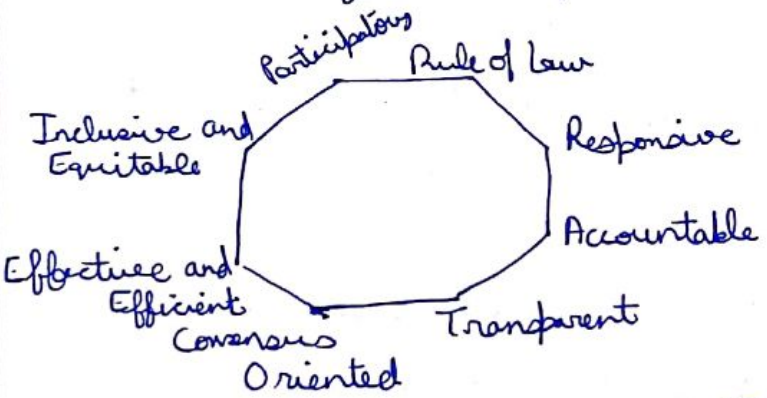
20. Focusing on technology without realizing that e-Governance is basically about ushering reforms in governance has meant that the potential of e-governance has not been realized. Discussing the statement, suggest what should be done to address this situation. **(250 words) 15 Marks**

ई-गवर्नेंस मूलतः शासन में सुधारों का सूत्रपात करने के लिए है, यह समझे बिना प्रौद्योगिकी पर ध्यान केंद्रित करने का अर्थ यह हुआ कि ई-गवर्नेंस की क्षमता का दोहन नहीं हो पाया है। इस कथन पर चर्चा करते हुए, सुझाव दीजिए कि इस स्थिति से निपटने हेतु क्या किया जाना चाहिए।

In recent years e-Governance has been seen as a method to ensure good governance. The outcome of this reform was to be →



GOOD GOVERNANCE

but there has been a greater focus on the technological aspects of e-Governance rather than the outcome.

The focus on technology can be seen in projects like :

1) Broadband connectivity to Gram Panchayats.
2) Use of JAM trinity.
3) Adoption of digitisation in many fields like

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Land Records; Government information; Government Tenders etc.

However, we can see that the true revolutionary potential has not been realised yet.
To do this we need to take some further reforms which move beyond the technology to structural changes:

1) The government should focus on bridging the digital divide. They should focus on increasing digital literacy by teaching, awareness spreading, partnering with NGO's as well as with the Gram Panchayats.

2) Increasing accessibility of the e-Governance measures. This would need greater focus on ~~regions~~ providing services in regional languages as well as on the more commonly used mobile platforms.

3) Usage of big data analytics and machine learning tools to get deeper analysis of the data generated. This might help in

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fields like tax evasion.

4) Cooperation between different branches like Tax, Law, Finance etc for seamless flow of information to reap the benefits of greater access.

5) Focus on cyber security and best practices.

6) Re-Engineering of government processes to bring them in line with the optimum benefits of using e-Governance tools.

Without the structural reforms e-Governance will only be seen as a fad and not the radical disruptor it has the potential to be. Only when the whole system ~~to~~ adopts this new paradigm can ~~the~~ 'Good Governance' be achieved.

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GENERAL STUDIES (TEST CODE : 1432)

Name of Candidate	Nihal Randhawa		
Medium Eng./Hindi	English	Registration Number	58233
Center	N/A	Date	29-July-2019

INDEX TABLE

Q. No.	Maximum Marks	Marks Obtained
1	10	
2	10	
3	10	
4	10	
5	10	
6	10	
7	10	
8	10	
9	10	
10	10	
11	15	
12	15	
13	15	
14	15	
15	15	
16	15	
17	15	
18	15	
19	15	
20	15	

Total Marks Obtained:

Remarks:

INSTRUCTIONS

1. Do furnish the appropriate details in the answer sheet (viz. Name, Registration Number and Test Code).
   उत्तर पुस्तिका मे सूचनाएं भरना आवश्यक है (नाम, प्रश्न-पत्र कोड, विद्यार्थी क्रमांक आदि)।
2. There are **TWENTY** questions printed in **ENGLISH & HINDI**
   इसमें बीस प्रश्न हैं अंग्रेजी और हिन्दी मे छपे हैं।
3. **All questions are compulsory.**
   सभी प्रश्न अनिवार्य हैं।
4. The number of marks carried by a question/part is indicated against it.
   प्रत्येक प्रश्न/भाग के अंक उसके सामने दिए गए है।
5. Answers must be written in the medium authorized in the Admission Certificate, which must be stated clearly on the cover of this Question-Cum-Answer (QCA) Booklet in the space provided. No marks will be given for answers written in medium other that the authorized one.
   प्रश्नो के उत्तर उसी माध्यम मे लिखे जाने चाहिए जिसका उल्लेख आपके प्रवेश पत्र मे किया गया है और उस माध्यम का स्पष्ट उल्लेख प्रश्न-सह-उत्तर (क्यूसीए) पुस्तिका के मुख्य पृष्ठ पर अंकित निर्दिष्ट स्थान पर किया जाना चाहिए। उल्लिखित माध्यम के अतिरिक्त अन्य किसी माध्यम मे लिए गए उत्तर पर कोई अंक नही मिलेंगे।
6. Word limit in questions, if specified, should be adhered to.
   प्रश्नो मे शब्द सीमा, जहाँ विनिर्दिष्ट है, का अनुसरण किया जाना चाहिए।
7. Any page or portion of the page left blank in the Question-Cum-Answer Booklet must be clearly struck off.
   उत्तर पुस्तिका मे खाली छोड़ा हुआ पृष्ठ या उसके अंश को स्पष्ट रूप से काटा जाना चाहिए।

16-B, 2nd Floor, Above National Trust Building, Bada Bazar Marg, Old Rajinder Nagar, Delhi-110060

Plot No. 857, 1st Floor, Banda Bahadur Marg (Opp Punjab & Sindh Bank), Dr. Mukherjee Nagar Delhi- 110009

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EVALUATION INDICATORS

1. Contextual Competence
2. Content Competence
3. Language Competence
4. Introduction Competence
5. Structure - Presentation Competence
6. Conclusion Competence

Overall Macro Comments / feedback / suggestions on Answer Booklet:

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.

6.

All the Best

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1. Explaining the reasons behind India's lower female labour force participation rates (LFPR), list the steps that have been taken to augment it. What more needs to be done? (150 Words) 10

भारत की निम्न महिला श्रमबल भागीदारी दर (LFPR) के पीछे उत्तरदायी कारणों को स्पष्ट करते हुए, इसे बढ़ाने हेतु उठाए गए कदमों को सूचीबद्ध कीजिए। साथ ही, बताइए कि इस दिशा में और क्या किए जाने की आवश्यकता है?

According to the National Sample Survey Organisation data India's Female Labour Force Participation rate has fallen to an all time low of approximately 23%. This

Reasons for low LFPR

1) The economic survey estimates that one cause of low LFPR is higher enrolment in higher educational standards for women. This delays their admission in the labour market.

2) The survey further points out that ~~growing~~ rising wages have made single income families viable thereby negating the need for women to work.

3) The rural workplace displays higher LFPR for ~~fam~~ females as compared to urban (nearly 48% to 20%). The Feminisation of Agriculture is more of a necessity than a choice.

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4) Patriarchal norms prevent even educated and skilled women from entering workplace.
5) More jobs are being created in skilled sectors like Services where women are less educated or skilled to be employed.
6) Gender related Workplace problems like Sexual Harassment; Glass Ceiling; Pay gap etc.

Steps Taken

1) Workplace related laws like Sexual Harassment Act; Equal Pays Act; Maternity Benefits Act etc.
2) Skilling initiatives aimed at women.
3) Govt. schemes like MGNREGA with women quotas.
4) Facilitating Women Entrepreneurship through provisions in Stand Up India, Start up India etc, Mudra loans, Priority Sector lending norms etc.

Way ~~Ford~~ Forward

1) Gender sensitisation at family; society and workplace level through awareness campaigns, education institutions etc.
2) Proper implementation of legal safeguards above
3) Promotion of SHG's as entrepreneurship enablers.
4) Promotion of equality in marriages through laws like Paternal leave during pregnancy.

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2. By rebalancing project risks between the public and private sectors, the HAM model has encouraged investments in the road infrastructure sector. Discuss. (150 words) 10

सार्वजनिक और निजी क्षेत्रकों के मध्य परियोजना जोखिमों को पुनर्संतुलित कर, HAM मॉडल ने सड़क अवसंरचना क्षेत्रक में निवेश को प्रोत्साहित किया है। चर्चा कीजिए।

The recent decades has seen the rise of PPP (Public Private Partnership) models to create infrastructure in roadways. One prominent model used is the Hybrid Annuity Model (HAM). This model is a mixture of EPC (Engineering, Procurement and Construction) and BOT (Build, Operate Transfer) model.

To see the benefits of HAM we need to focus on the issue with BOT and EPC.

In EPC, NHAI pays private builders to build roads. The private player has no role in toll collection, doesn't own the road or maintain it. In BOT the private players build, operate, collect tolls, maintain road for a specified time before the government claims the asset.

HAM combines both so in it 40% of the project cost is released by NHAI to the developers in 5 tranches. The rest of the 60%

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is raised by the developers and not recovered through tolls but payment by NHAI

Model	Financing Risk Borne By	Revenue Risk Borne By	Operation and Management
EPC	NHAI	NHAI	NHAI
BOT	Private	Private	Private
HAM	NHAI and Private	NHAI	Either

Thus, the advantage of HAM is that it reduces liquidity demand on private investor since risk of financing is shared. It also takes away the risk of payment through tolls (subject to traffic) from the private party.

This has enabled a sudden increase in PPP through HAM with this model accounting for nearly half of all such contracts awarded in the last fiscal year.

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3. Examine the need for a comprehensive policy on e-commerce in view of its domestic expansion as well as safeguarding India's interests globally. (150 words) 10

ई-कॉमर्स पर एक व्यापक नीति की आवश्यकता का इसके घरेलू विस्तार के साथ-साथ वैश्विक स्तर पर भारत के हितों की सुरक्षा को देखते हुए परीक्षण कीजिए।

With a growing economy and spread in internet connectivity as well as digital payment methods, e-Commerce is in turn to become a 200 billion dollars economy in India within the next decade.

Need for E-Commerce Policy

1) Presently the laws regulating it come under many statutes like IT Act, FDI norms, RBI's digital banking norms etc. Thus, there is confusion, red tapism and lack of enforcement.

2) There is a need to protect the interest of 'brick and mortar' shops.

3) India's e-commerce industry could be dominated by MNC's like Amazon, Walmart etc

4) Unlike China's Alibaba India has had few domestic firms come big in this domain

5) Suspicions abound regarding data privacy norms

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6) Creation of monopolies (For eg. Certain mobile phone companies like OnePlus only selling on Amazon) and Predatory Discounts are to be discouraged.

Thus, we can see that in the absence of well structured regulations foreign capital and MNC's are capturing this emerging sector of the Indian economy. The need is to provide a level playing field without the deep capital of well established companies strangling emerging start ups.

In this regard, the recent e-commerce FDI policy where online ~~sellers or~~ marketplaces will have to hold only a limited inventory is a positive step.

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4. In view of the growing significance of FinTech innovations, discuss the potential and challenges of mainstreaming FinTech in Indian economy.
(150 words) 10

फिनटेक (FinTech) नवाचारों के बढ़ते महत्व को देखते हुए, भारतीय अर्थव्यवस्था में फिनटेक को मुख्यधारा में लाने की संभावनाओं और चुनौतियों पर चर्चा कीजिए।

FinTech is a portmanteau of Finance and Technology. It refers to using technological innovations in order to improve, innovate, invent, automate and otherwise better the delivery of financial services. For eg. Using Peer2Peer lending in order to get credit.

Potential of Fin Tech in India

1) India has a high penetration of data service as well as a large working population due to the demographics. This provides a vast economy for FinTech users.

2) ~~Under~~ The vast numer of individuals as well as businesses are underserved by traditional banking methods. This is highlighted by
a) Nearly 80% of transactions are in cash.
b) Few small businesses use PoS machines or online payment.
c) Difficulty of credit for MSME's.

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3) Innovative start ups in FinTech sector as it is not very capital intensive (No factories, land acquisitions etc.)

Challenges in Mainstreaming FinTech

1) Unreliable infrastructure in terms of internet connectivity, speed, electricity etc.
2) Reluctance to trust these innovations over cash.
3) Presence of fraudsters who can dupe the technologically illiterate.
4) Regulatory uncertainty provides a risky environment for FinTech companies. For eg RBI recently banned Cryptocurrency hurting Indian based 'Wallet Companies'.
5) Concerns about cyber security.

The RBI has promoted certain technologies like UPI or BHIM showcasing support for FinTech innovation. The need is for innovations in this sector by start ups as well as established companies and for the government to provide clear regulations that limits fraud while enabling growth.

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5. With India striving to achieve its development objectives, examine how blue economy can help in pursuing the objectives of economic development and ecological sustainability. (150 words) 10

भारत द्वारा अपने विकास उद्देश्यों को प्राप्त करने के प्रयास में, परीक्षण कीजिए कि किस प्रकार नीली अर्थव्यवस्था आर्थिक विकास और पारिस्थितिकीय संधारणीयता के उद्देश्यों को प्राप्त करने में सहायता कर सकती है।

The Blue Economy refers to economic activities related to ~~fisheries~~ oceanic sector. It includes fisheries, marine tourism, ocean energy, marine mining etc.

Potential of Blue Economy in helping achieve India's Development Objectives

1) India accounts for the world's second largest production of fisheries and has abundant potential for sustainably increasing this with an abundant coastline.

2) India has a vast Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) due to coastline and thousands of islands. This potentially provides access to potential seabed mining of Polymetallic Nodules.

3) India's ports carry 95% of ~~to~~ exported or imported goods.

4) India has untapped seabed based resources of hydrocarbons.

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5) Energy generation through wind farms in the sea or through tidal energy.

However, a significant concern is sustainable and ecologically sound growth. For Blue Economy to reach its potential, sustainability is a must. Steps taken are:

1) Sagarmala Project to modernise ports; connect ports to hinterland; create a better logistics platform in order to reap trade related benefits.

2) Make in India based thrust on shipbuilding; indigenous manufacturing of Naval crafts including submarines and even an aircraft carrier.

3) Environmental protection related steps like CRZ notifications or regulation of ship distruction activities.

If India is to achieve its target of $5 trillion economy by 2024 then Blue Economy will have to play a leading role.

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6. Reliance on borrowings for capital expenditure in railways reflects a weakening financial position. Comment on the statement and discuss ways in which better resource generation and utilisation can be achieved therein.

(150 words) 10

रेलवे में पूंजीगत व्यय के लिए उधारी पर निर्भरता कमजोर होती वित्तीय स्थिति को प्रतिबिंबिति करती है। इस कथन पर टिप्पणी कीजिए तथा उन उपायों पर चर्चा कीजिए जिनमे इसमें बेहतर संसाधन सृजन और उपयोगिता प्राप्त की जा सकती है।

The Railways budget shows that it has a high Operational Cost (money spent as revenue expenditure as compared to money earned), greater than 90%. This indicates that any money needed to finance Capital Expenditure needs to come from borrowings which are in the form of grants, loans etc.

Reasons for Reliance on Borrowings

1) High revenue expenditure:

a) Railways is the largest employer in ~~the world~~ India. Salaries, pensions, allowances etc. take up a huge portion of the budget.

b) Railways has to manage incidental concerns too like Housing complexes, Railway Police Force, Schools, Hospitals etc

2) Reduction in revenue due to:

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groundwater resources.

4) It will facilitate greater cropping in dryland areas; hitherto unirrigated areas thereby increasing agricultural income.

5) Reduces soil degradation because top soil doesn't get eroded.

6) Can provide fertilizers and insecticides directly to crop root by dissolving them in water. This is cheaper, more effective and better for environment

However, there are certain impediments like High Capital Cost; Technological viability is missing; Awareness lacking; Uneconomical sizes of Landholdings etc.

Steps Taken by Government

1) Implementation of 'PerDrop More Crop' where micro irrigation is promoted. Financial Assistance is provided under Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana.

2) Collaboration with Israel to get their expertise in this technology and low water usage farming.

3) Funding from Micro Irrigation Fund under NABARD to farmers willing to implement this.

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7. With water increasingly becoming a scarce resource, large scale adoption of micro irrigation techniques could prove to be a game changer in India. Analyse. Also enumerate various steps taken by the government to promote micro irrigation in India.

(150 words) 10

जल के उत्तरोत्तर दुर्लभ संसाधन बनते जाने के कारण, भारत में सूक्ष्म सिंचाई तकनीकों का व्यापक पैमाने पर अंगीकरण निर्णायक सिद्ध हो सकता है। विश्लेषण कीजिए। साथ ही, भारत में सूक्ष्म सिंचाई को बढ़ावा देने हेतु सरकार द्वारा उठाए गए विभिन्न कदमों को भी सूचीबद्ध कीजिए।

India has to support 17% of the world's population but has merely 4% of the world's fresh water resources. These too are coming under increasing strain as evidenced by the near drought like conditions in Chennai recently as the monsoon got delayed. The largest consumers of water in India is the agricultural sector with nearly 70% of the water consumption. Therefore micro irrigation could prove to be a game changer when it comes to water conservation:

1) They will replace the present day inefficient method of flooding with targetted drip or sprinkles technology which saves water.
2) It will reduce soil salinity especially in areas of intense cropping like Punjab.
3) It will help reduce over exploitation of

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groundwater resources.

4) It will facilitate greater cropping in dryland areas; hitherto unirrigated areas thereby increasing agricultural income.

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8. Livestock farming not only contributes to climate change but is also affected by it. Elaborate the statement and discuss some measures that can be taken to make livestock farming more sustainable as well as resilient.

(150 Words) 10

पशुधन खेती (लाइवस्टॉक फार्मिंग) न केवल जलवायु परिवर्तन में योगदान देता है, बल्कि इससे प्रभावित भी होता है। इस कथन का सविस्तार वर्णन कीजिए और पशुधन खेती को अधिक संधारणीय के साथ-साथ लचीला (रिज़िल्यंट) बनाने हेतु उठाए जा सकने वाले कुछ कदमों की विवेचना कीजिए।

Livestock farming refers to ~~grazing~~ rearing animals such as cattle, hens, goats, camels etc for either directly eating them or for animal products like eggs, milk etc.

Livestock Farming's Contribution to Climate Change

1) Vast tracts of farming land are used to produce feed ~~to~~ for beef, pork, chicken production. This land is often deforested land and this causes climate change.

2) Cows are among the largest producers of methane. ~~Their exc~~ Excrement of livestock also releases nitrogen oxide to the surroundings

3) Some pastoral animals like sheep when they overgraze on an area lead to ~~deforestation~~ destruction of the ecology of the area.

Thus, we can see that livestock are a significant source of contribution to Climate Change

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Climate Change's Effect on Livestock

1) Changing climate has led to increase in diseases as newer conditions breed different, hitherto unknown pathogens. For eg. The increased incidences of Bird Flu in recent decade.
2) Growing heat stress has reduced yield from certain species.
3) Uncertain weather has made presence of grazing fields at expected times uncertain for sheep or horses ~~at ha~~ especially at high altitudes like in the Himalayas.

Measures Taken to Address This

1) Various government initiatives to combat climate changes over the years like International Treaties, Environmental Protection Acts, promotion of Electric Vehicles etc.
2) Promotion of reduction in meat eating globally as this will address the methane gas issue
3) Promote breeding of more resilient and heat resistant breeds,
4) There should be awareness generation among livestock farmers about this problem and the need to diversify their sources of income

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9. The cropping pattern of a region is influenced by geo-climatic, socio-cultural, economic, historical and political factors. Substantiate with relevant examples. (150 words) 10

किसी क्षेत्र का शस्य प्रतिरूप भू-जलवायविक, सामाजिक-सांस्कृतिक, आर्थिक, ऐतिहासिक और राजनीतिक कारकों से प्रभावित होता है। प्रासंगिक उदाहरणों के साथ पुष्टि कीजिए।

Cropping pattern refers to various things:

1) Type of Crops grown. For eg Leguminous or not
2) Duration of sowing is it once, twice or even thrice.
3) Area of land left fallow and area under crops.

Factors Influencing Cropping Pattern

1) Geo-Climatic → Some crops are suited to one type of climate and soil while others to a different one. It depends on temperature, humidity, amount of rainfall, sunlight, soil type, moisture etc. For eg. Coffee and Tea cultivation in foothills of Assam, rice cultivation in Bengal etc

2) Socio Cultural → The society and culture which comprises of religion, tradition, customs, local consumption patterns etc influence cropping pattern. For eg. Tradition ~~of Rice Cultivation in Bengal~~ ~~of tea~~ of tea cultivation in India is relatively recent because ~~of cultural~~ culture of drinking tea came during the previous century only.

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3) Economic → Viability, Profitability, Sellability of a crop. Market forces such as high price for Basmati compared to other varieties are responsible and so is government input in the form of MSP for some crops at different prices, subsidies on inputs (seeds, power, water, etc). So Rice is cultivated in Punjab due to free water, assured MSP despite it being a low rainfall state.

4) Historical → Farmers learn from their parents and thus follow old traditions. For eg. The continuing prevalence of Jhoom Cultivation.

5) Political Factors → It encapsulates the 'Political Economy' factors mentioned above such as MSP, subsidy etc. It also includes national projects such as Green Revolution which led to intensive farming. In recent times National Millet Project that seeks to change cropping patterns to include millets is an example.

Thus, we can see that cropping patterns are influenced by a complex variety of factors. There are even some other factors such as infrastructure, laws (cannot grow opium in India) etc.

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10. A developed Inland Waterway Transport (IWT) will not only augment the overall transport capacity of the country, but also help correct the multi-modal transport mix. Discuss. **(150 words) 10**

एक विकसित अंतर्देशीय जलमार्ग परिवहन (IWT) न केवल देश की समग्र परिवहन क्षमता को बढ़ाएगा, अपितु इससे मल्टी-मॉडल परिवहन मिश्रण को सुधारने में भी सहायता मिलेगी। चर्चा कीजिए।

India has many major rivers, lakes, inlets, canals etc with great potential for logistics but the use of them has been lacking.

A well developed Inland Waterway Transport (IWT) will help the transport capacity as.

1) Waterways are by far cheaper, ecologically better and able to handle greater quantity as compared to the alternatives - Railways, Air transport or Roadways.

2) They will ~~enhance~~ create new connectivity routes away from the old roads and railways networks.

3) Historically, a bulk of India's cities are situated near rivers. Therefore rivers are suited for transport as these cities are already connected.

4) Removing the load from roads, railways and air transport will helps increase their speed, reduce their costs and provide alternatives competition which helps boost the economy.

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India's multi-modal transport mix is skewed. Traditionally railways and roadways have been the most frequented ways which is counter-intuitively as railways are significantly cheaper than roadways. But issues with railways like cross-subsidisation; focus on passengers; less investment; overburdening of prominent freight traffic routes etc has led to roadways being preferred.

Induction of waterways will reduce reliance on roadways and railways making the overall logistics sector cheaper, faster and environmentally more sound.

The recent government initiatives of creating National Waterways by cleaning rivers, procuring boats/ships, infrastructure of ports etc is a step in the right direction. It is also being coupled with the Sagarmala Project and helping in transporting both exports as well as internal trade.

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11. Can the consolidation of banks help in stemming the existing problems in the banking sector? Discuss. (250 words) 15

क्या बैंकों का समेकन बैंकिंग क्षेत्रक में वर्तमान समस्याओं से निपटने में सहायता कर सकता है? चर्चा कीजिए।

Bank Consolidation has been gathering pace in recent times with merger of Mahila Bank with SBI, various banks like State Bank of Hyderabad with SBI and proposed merger of other PSB's like Bank of Baroda in the offing. The hope is that these huge banks will help stem the problems in the banking sector.

Problems in the Sector

1) Non Performing Assets and Rise in Bad Loans.
2) Various bank frauds like PNB fraud.
3) The NBFC crisis.
4) Liquidity crunch and inability of bank to lower interest rates despite basis points reduction in Repo Rate by RBI.
5) Inability to meet Capital norms to meet the Basel-III norms.

Why Bank Consolidation will help

1) The highly exposed to NPA banks will be able to get them absorbed when they

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merge with SBI which has greater assets and capital

2) Reduction in multiple branches, rationalisation of staff, closure of unnecessary branches, benefit of economies of scale should help in reducing revenue expenditure as well as generation of greater revenue.

3) Stronger and stabler banks will find it cheaper to access greater finances as its Share prices should increase and more would be willing to lend to it.

4) Greater depositor confidence. ~~and more~~

5) Best practices when it comes to lending, due diligence, fraud detection, & compliance with RBI norms etc can be more easily practised with few big banks.

6) Greater capital and liquidity will help meet Basel - II norms.

7) RBI can use tools like Moral Suasion to convince banks to lower interest rates and pass on Repo Rate cuts to end users.

However, repo rate cuts do pose certain challenges.

Why Bank Consolidation might Fail

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1) If the 'big bank' goes bust then it poses a serious threat to the economy.
2) The underlying reasons behind NPA crisis and Bank Fraud - Inefficiency, Corruption, Political Interference etc - are still not adequately addressed.
3) It is unreasonable to expect 2 or more banking personnel with different work cultures, work habits to gel perfectly.
4) We risk concentration of NPA'S.
5) This could prove a setback to Financial Inclusion
6) The niche banks like those for women or those with a strong regional focus would lose their individuality leading to their customers losing out.

Thus, we can see that Bank Consolidation is a good step if adequate safeguards are taken. It should also go hand in hand with other reforms like reducing scope for corruption in the sector, Bad Bank Creation; more effective RBI regulation and scrutiny; insulation from political - industrial nexus etc.

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12. Why has the contribution of manufacturing sector, as a percentage of the GDP, remained stagnant in the recent years? In this context, analyse the achievements of National Manufacturing Policy, 2011 with regards to its intended objectives. **(250 words) 15**

विगत वर्षों में GDP के प्रतिशत के रूप में विनिर्माण क्षेत्रक का योगदान स्थिर क्यों रहा है? इस संदर्भ में, अपने लक्षित उद्देश्यों के संबंध में राष्ट्रीय विनिर्माण नीति, 2011 की उपलब्धियों का विश्लेषण कीजिए।

Despite a determined push since the days of the 1st Planning Commission Indian Manufacturing has been unable to reach its potential. The high point of contribution to GDP of this sector was around 28% in the mid eighties and even post LPG reforms it has hovered between 20-25% of GDP contribution.

Reasons for Stagnation

1) No true reform has taken place in manufacturing. The onerous labour laws still exist with both state and centre involved. Similarly ~~land~~ buying land, contract enforcement, ease of paying taxes, ease of starting a business. in short the 'Ease of Doing Business' reforms are still to truly happen.

2) Regulatory uncertainty with doubts about rewriting contracts, judicial delays, changes in FDI, changes in e-commerce norms etc reduce investor confidence.

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3) Infrastructural support is lacking. Electricity supply is expensive and erratic, similarly for other factors of production like water supply, coal supply etc.

4) The industry is not competitive enough to increase our export of finished goods and the liberalisation policy has increased competition with the import of the internationally competitive goods. This double whammy has contributed to stagnation.

5) Post 2008 crisis, there has been a global slowdown in demand. In India there's been tightening of credit supply due to rising NPA's as well.

6) Skilling problem with supply of skilled labour missing.

Major Objectives of NMP, 2011

1) Increase share of Manufacturing in GDP to 25% by 2022.

2) Create a 100 million additional jobs by 2022.

3) Enhance Global Competitiveness, promote exports and create sustainable growth.

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Achievements of NMP, 2011

1) The share of Manufacturing in GDP, as of 2019, is a mere 17%. Without great growth, it seems hard to reach 25% in the next 3 years.

2) The rate of overall job creation is low, with bulk of job growth happening in services instead of manufacturing. The Economic Survey has highlighted the phenomenon of 'Jobless Growth' as well as 'Capital rather than Labour Intensive Manufacturing'.

Thus, we can see that to come close to fulfilling the potential of this sector some drastic changes are needed. In this context some recent programmes and initiatives are promising :-

Start up India; Skill India; PM Kaushal Yojana; Make in India; Improvement in Ease of Doing Business; Reform in Labor Codes by creating 4 codes.

Proper implementation of these is needed to fulfill the NMP objectives

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13. One of the goals that a developing economy aspires for is to bring down the Incremental Capital-Output Ratio (ICOR). In this context, what are the constraints that underlie the efficient conversion of savings rate to investments in the Indian economy? Also suggest some measures to improve this efficiency. **(250 words) 15**

एक विकासशील अर्थव्यवस्था जिन लक्ष्यों की आकांक्षा रखती है उनमें से एक वृद्धिशील पूंजी-उत्पाद अनुपात (इंक्रीमेंटल कैपिटल-आउटपुट रेश्यो: ICOR) में कमी लाना है। इस संदर्भ में, भारतीय अर्थव्यवस्था में बचत दर के निवेश में कुशल रूपांतरण के समक्ष आने वाली बाधाएँ क्या हैं? साथ ही, इसकी कुशलता में सुधार हेतु कुछ उपायों का भी सुझाव दीजिए।

The Incremental Capital-Output ratio (ICOR) indicates the increase in output if additional capital is provided. If this ratio is low then the country's economy is better off because it can increase its output without significant capital investment.

The investment can come from domestic savings of the citizens who will route it through various banking channels (buying bonds, deposits given later as loans by the bank, buying shares etc.) However India's relatively high savings rate doesn't translate into a high investment and capital formation because of some constraint:

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1) Rise in NPA's has led to banks becoming stingy with loans. Even post demonitisation when banks were having high liquidity they didn't decrease the interest rates.

2) The banks also face constraints of previous NPA's, Basel-III's high Capital Adequacy Ratio and having to adhere to RBI's CRR and SLR requirements. All these lessen the appetite for giving loans.

3) A global slowdown and decrease in GDP growth rate has meant lesser demand for loans from beleguared sectors of the economy.

4) The rising fiscal deficit of the government causes households to save more and in safer options because they fear a rise in taxes a few years down the line.

5) The government mandates higher savings rate to be given (for eg. high saving rate to old age depositors) and to remain profitable the banks keep their loan interest rate high.

6) Crowding out of market due to excessive borrowing by government.

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7) Penchant in India to buy physical assets such as Gold or Real Estate which reduces the amount of money available to buy debts or equity.

Measures that can be Taken

1) Recapitalisation of banks to free up lending as under the Indradhanush Scheme.

2) Incentivising savings through tax rebate, financial inclusion, financial literacy etc.

3) Better regulation of banks and NBFC's so that the depositors confidence in them remain high.

4) Innovative schemes like Gold Linked Bonds or Real Estate Investment (REIT's) to entice those people who trust gold and real estate as investment.

5) Revive private sector demand by improving Ease of doing business and providing better infrastructure to do business.

The virtuous cycle of high savings, high private sector investment and high export as highlighted by the Economic Survey should be the way to become a $5 trillion economy by 2022.

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14. Highlight the factors responsible for rise in the number of start-ups in India in recent years. Analyzing the challenges in the existing start-up ecosystem, suggest some measures to resolve them. (250 words) 15

विगत वर्षों में भारत में स्टार्ट-अप की संख्या में वृद्धि के लिए उत्तरदायी कारकों पर प्रकाश डालिए। वर्तमान स्टार्ट-अप पारितंत्र की चुनौतियों का विश्लेषण करते हुए, उनका समाधान करने हेतु कुछ उपायों का सुझाव दीजिए।

With Increasing focus on start ups India is soon becoming one of the countries with the largest number of start ups.

Factors Responsible for Rise in Number

1) A highly skilled and motivated population with access to the required infrastructure to create a start up.

2) Government support with schemes like Start up India, Stand up India, Tax Rebates, Angel Tax, various hackathons etc.

3) Start up Incubators have been set up in conjunction with Industry-Academia-Government support. For eg T-Hub in Hyderabad with support from IIIT and ISB Hyderabad.

4) Low cost of creating start ups in certain sectors like technology, web based companies, design etc.

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5) Inspiration from Indian start ups which becomes successful like Ola, RedBus, Flipkart etc.

6) Inspiration from global environment where some start ups like Uber, Google have become among the largest corporations.

7) Maturing start up scene in certain cities in India like Mumbai, Hyderabad, Bangalore with Angel Investors, VC Funding, mentorship & available.

Challenges in Start Up Ecosystem

1) Most start ups fail (>90% are expected to) and this thus disincentivises ~~f~~ founders as well as investors.

2) Governmental interference in the newly emerging sectors is harmful. Often regulations are unclear or arbitrary. For eg. The confusion around Crypto Currency regulation in India forced the closure of many 'Wallet Companies' in India.

3) Greater ~~liberal~~ liberalisation causes many well established foreign MNC's to compete with Indian start ups where they can

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use their vast money reserves to create virtual monopolies.

4) Expensive interest rates (highest real interest rates in the world); irregular and costly access to electricity; Plethora of contradictory laws relating to labour, wages, disputes etc make 'Ease of doing Business' in India very tough.

5) Lack of highly skilled manpower with proliferation of start ups and competition from established MNC's also driving up the scarcity of finding good employees.

6) Current liquidity crunch has reduced availability of financing.

Way Forward

1) The government as well as industry should have greater interaction to create synergy between industry demands and government regulations.

2) Encourage investment by tax rebates or other means

3) Try and reduce over regulation or frequent changes to taxes and regulations.

Only then can India create its own Google or even Alibaba.

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15. There is a high cost of compliance as well as complexities associated with existing labour laws at centre and state levels. Discuss. What steps have recently been taken by the central government to address these challenges? (250 words) 15

केंद्र और राज्य स्तरों पर वर्तमान श्रम कानूनों के साथ अनुपालन की उच्च लागत के साथ-साथ जटिलताएँ भी जुड़ी हुई हैं। चर्चा कीजिए। इन चुनौतियों से निपटने के लिए केंद्र सरकार द्वारा हाल में क्या कदम उठाए गए हैं?

Due to its high population and younger demographic India had a naturally large supply of labour. It was feared that Industry would exploit the Supply-Demand situation so both State and Central governments have created very extensive and progressive labour protection laws. However these are turning out to be counter productive as the high cost of compliance forces the labour to be employed as Contract workers or Informal Employees thereby foregoing decent employment.

Reasons for Compliance Cost

1) Both State and Central govt have a plethora of laws regulating labour. These can be contradictory and often ~~stuck~~ outdated yet have to be complied with.

2) They provide scope for harassment by

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government officers and lead to a culture of bribery.

3) They ~~encourage~~ prevent lean and efficient companies as they have to take permission from states before firing people. For eg Some industries where more than 100 people are employed, a person can be laid off only with the approval of the state.

4) As cost of compliance increases manifold if no. of employees goes beyond a certain number, most of India's manufacturing industry remains small.

5) As there are more than a 100 central laws alone dealing with labour, it becomes very hard to comply with all of them.

Steps taken by Central Government

1) The biggest step is the effort going on to consolidate all Central laws into 4 codes:

a) Industrial-Workers Disputes
b) Welfare of Labours
c) Code on Wages
d) Code on Safety and Health

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2) Making it easier for companies to file EPFO contributions for employees.

3) For workers earning under 21,000 rupees the government has also committed to paying a portion of EPFO contribution - thereby reducing burden on companies.

4) The central govt has removed nearly 1200 archaic laws from the statute book, some of them to do with labour regulation.

5) Making compliance easier through e-Filing and LIN (Labour Identification Number).

6) Promoting Contractual Employment to reduce informal employment.

If labour reforms truly take place then India should be able to reap the benefits of its vast labour workforce and huge domestic as well as export market to become a manufacturing powerhouse in the way China has become. However, there has to be a balance between ease of doing business and protection of labour's interests therefore equal emphasis should be placed on both.

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16. The contribution of coal based power generation is not expected to substantially go down in the next few decades, despite growing importance of renewables. Comment on the statement in light of increasing demand for power in India. **(250 words) 15**

नवीकरणीय संसाधनों के बढ़ते महत्व के बावजूद, कोयला आधारित विद्युत उत्पादन के योगदान में अगले कुछ दशकों में मूलतः कमी आने की उम्मीद नहीं है। भारत में विद्युत की बढ़ती मांग के आलोक में इस कथन पर टिप्पणी कीजिए।

India has invested heavily in renewable energy and is on track to achieve the target of generation of 175 GW by 2022. Yet, the coal based power plants still account for greater than 50% of the supply and renewables hover around 15%.

Reasons for Coal being the Primary Source

1) Existing ~~was~~ large scale investment in Coal Power Plants means that they have to function else large loss to the exchequer.
2) India has massive coal stocks and is the world's 3rd largest coal producer.
3) Renewable energy costs of setting up are often prohibitively expensive and the large scale innovation means that there is scope for further improvement (in terms of prices generation capacity, storage etc.) therefore ~~people~~ countries adopt a wait and

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watch attract,

4) Increasing demand for electricity means all possible source have to be used.

5) Coal power can be cheaper than alternative sources to produce.

6) There are also certain drawbacks associated with renewable energy which makes coal an attractive proposition:

1) The common alternatives are sun and wind which suffer from being erratic in supply, unable to scale up or down as per demand, vulnerable to weather fluctuations etc. Therefore coal or other such sources (nuclear) is needed as backup.

2) Battery and storage technologies are still not up to scale.

3) India lags behind in crucial equipment manufacturing and materials needed to fully commit to renewable. A large portion of our Solar Cells are sourced from China and so are rare earth metals

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The government is on track to both:

a) Support renewables and do its bit under the INDC's ~~to~~ of the Paris Agreement to combat climate change.

b) Support India's development and growing power needs of its people by supporting coal based power generation too.

The roadmap for the future should be reducing reliance on non renewables and supporting renewable sources of energy.

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17. Elaborate the strategic and operational elements of the Agriculture Export Policy, 2018 and discuss the role it can play to achieve the target of doubling farmers' income by 2022. **(250 words) 15**

कृषि निर्यात नीति, 2018 के रणनीतिक एवं परिचालन-संबंधी तत्वों का सविस्तार वर्णन कीजिए और 2022 तक किसानों की आय को दोगुना करने के लक्ष्य को प्राप्त करने में इसके द्वारा निभायी जा सकने वाली भूमिका की विवेचना कीजिए।

To fulfill the aim of doubling farmers income by 2022 the promotion of Agricultural exports is necessary. The Agriculture Export Policy, 2018 lays out the roadmap to achieve this.

Strategic Element

1) Aims to double Agriculture Exports from present day 30 billion dollars to 60 billion dollars by 2022 and then sustainably increase them beyond that.
2) Push for a stable Global Trade Policy.
3) Reforms in APMC functioning.
4) Creation of ~~A~~ e NAM (electronic National Agriculture Market)
5) Addressing concerns about Phyto Sanitary Tariffs by using krishi Vigyan kendras.

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6) Infrastructure and Logistics support involving cold storage warehouses, mega food parks, etc.

7) Involvement of State Government to holistically boost exports.

Operational Element

1) Focus on Food Producing Organisations (FPO) to strengthen their ability to export.

2) Promoting value added exports by innovations like Organic Farming.

3) Agricultural reforms to attract private investment like Contract Farming.

4) Supporting entrepreneurs in this field by creation of Agri Start up Fund.

5) Strong quality control regime.

The export potential of agriculture in India is vast but there are challenges which inhibit it. Some of these challenges have been addressed by the Agriculture Export Policy, 2018, like Non Tariff trade

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barriers; lack of infrastructure and logistics; lack of awareness; value addition in Food Processing industries etc.

~~However~~ However this policy alone may not achieve the desired objective because of challenges like:

1) Reliance on monsoon makes supply erratic which deters prospective buyers.
2) Stringent government control over export and imports to address consumer demands. For eg. The Additional Safeguards Mechanism under WTO wherein imports are banned also impacts the exporters in India.
3) Subsistence farming and lack of reform in APMC means the market is local at best.
4) Without significant food processing a bulk of Indias Agricultural exports would be high in volume but low in value.
5) Potential drop in productivity due to climate change.

Hence, we can see that this policy is certainly a huge step in the right direction but a holistic and continuous reform is needed in the Agricultural sector to achieve the taget of doubling farmers' income.

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18. Write a brief note on 'Dry Ports' and their significance in mitigating logistic challenges in India. Also, discuss the challenges in their development and measures needed to address them. (250 words) 15

भारत में लॉजिस्टिक्स की चुनौतियों को कम करने में 'शुष्क पत्तनों' एवं उनके महत्व पर एक संक्षिप्त टिप्पणी लिखिए। साथ ही, उनके विकास में आने वाली चुनौतियों और उनके समाधान हेतु आवश्यक उपायों पर चर्चा कीजिए।

Dry Ports are hinterland ports which usually are at strategically important locations where there is confluence of factors like Multiple Modes of Transport; Presence of Industry; Skilled labour to handles logistics; Ability to do value addition and other such features which resemble the functioning of port cities.

Significance of Dry Ports

1) They act as a GDP multiplier due to linking industry with industry as well as industry with market.

2) They are crucial for providing economically viable access to raw material, intermediate goods, capital goods, and transporting finished goods.

3) They reduce the burden on crowded

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ports.

4) They can prove to be the genesis of SEZ's or an industrial hub linked to these dry land port.

5) They can help reducing logistics cost of manufacturing in India (On an average 13-14%)

6) They help in reaching the objectives of Sagarmala Project – Port led development

Challenges Faced by Dry Ports

1) Overutilisation of popular freight train routs of railways leads to time delays, accidents and reliance on costlier roadways transport.

2) Underdeveloped Inland Waterways in India which are generally cheaper than other modes of bulk transport.

3) It is financially tough for government to finance development of a new dry port and there is credit crunch and rising Twin Balance Sheet problem which makes PPP model unviable as well.

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4) Complexities in Customs laws and GST makes smooth movement of imports and exports through dry land port tough.

5) Environmental hurdles like Environmental Impact Assessment; Afforestation etc make Greenfield development hard.

6) Land Acquisition issues persist.

Measures Needed

1) Proper viability assessment which takes profitability into account via presence of manufacturing and industrial hubs nearby.

2) Developing connectivity via rail and road.

3) Utilisation of Inland Waterways if feasible

4) Improving ease of obtaining regulatory and environmental clearances as well as access to finance.

5) Promoting privatisation in port management.

6) Simplification of GST and Customs laws with automation; single window clearance reducing bribery etc.

scope for

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19. Development of food processing industry will help in achieving the twin goals of inclusive growth and food security. Discuss. Also, account for the competitive advantages enjoyed by India in the food processing sector. (250 words) 15

खाद्य प्रसंस्करण उद्योग के विकास से समावेशी विकास और खाद्य सुरक्षा के दोहरे लक्ष्यों को प्राप्त करने में सहायता मिलेगी। चर्चा कीजिए। साथ ही, खाद्य प्रसंस्करण क्षेत्रक में भारत को प्राप्त प्रतिस्पर्धात्मक लाभ का भी विवरण दीजिए।

Food processing refers to value addition done to agricultural products that improve it in one or more of the following aspects Nutritional Content; Taste; Addition to other items like Juice, Sauce, Jams, Pickles etc; Longevity; Aesthetic appeal; Sanitation and Health etc

This sector is underserved in India despite potential. The benefits of this are

Inclusive Growth

1) Can augment income of unskilled or semi skilled rural workers by providing employment.
2) Underemployment can be assuaged by food processing thereby increasing income.
3) Value addition raises ~~cost~~ value of product.

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4) It requires intensive labour thereby providing employment.

5) Waste material, ~~not~~ spoiling food, fodder etc. can be used as inputs in food processing thereby increasing income.

6) Government can set up these industries in poorer part of the country providing growth to them.

7) MSME industries can be set up here.

8) SHG's often help rural women entrepreneurs in ~~th~~ start ups in this sector.

Food Security

1) Items like pickle, canned fruits, juices etc are preserved for longer time than more fresh fruits and vegetables.

2) The value addition can provide much needed essential macro and micro nutrients like Iron, Sodium which are otherwise lacking causing Food Insecurity.

3) Rising incomes of rural workers from FPI causes better nutrition to be ~~avoids~~ accessible to them.

4) Changing dietary needs can be accomodated. For eg. Rising consumption of dairy products can

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be accomodated by Butter, Dried Milk Powder etc.

5) Reuse of waste, rotting food or damaged goods (like ugly vegetable which wouldn't sell in the market) increases food/nutrition availability.

India's Competitive Advantages

1) Presence of huge semi skilled or unskilled labour conversant with agricultural economy etc.

2) Presence of raw materials in the form of vegetables, fruits, milk, eggs, cereals etc.

3) A vast market domestically with rising standard of living creating a demand for processed food.

4) Vast agricultural resources and potential like land, soil, farmers, subsidies etc.

The government has come up with various schemes like Mega Food Parks; Agriculture Export Policy, 2018; Agri Start Up Fund; Mudra Loans to start ups which aim to promote this sector. The need is to also provide logistical and infrastructural support in order to realise its full potential.

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20. Identify the problems faced by Indian agriculture as a consequence of changing land holding pattern as witnessed in the findings of Agriculture census, 2015-16. In light of these problems, suggest suitable ways to resolve such structural issues in agriculture. **(250 words) 15**

जैसा कि कृषि संगणना, 2015-16 के जाँच परिणामों में देखा गया है, परिवर्तनशील भू-धारण प्रतिरूप के परिणामस्वरूप भारतीय कृषि के समक्ष आने वाली समस्याओं की पहचान कीजिए। इन समस्याओं के प्रकाश में, कृषि में ऐसे संरचनात्मक मुद्दों का समाधान करने के लिए उपयुक्त उपायों का सुझाव दीजिए।

The Agricultural census of 2015-16 has highlighted certain key changes in land holding patterns :-

1) Reduction in overall area under cultivation.
2) Reduction in operational land holdings size.
3) Increasingly large numbers of land holdings are female operated.
4) Increasing fragmentation of holdings.

A large number of problems plaguing agriculture can be traced to these changing patterns:

1) Reduced growth in farmer income —
The small land holdings ~~make~~ ~~to revenue loss~~ are uneconomical and force subsistence farming (for the smallest holdings) or just as indebted existence (for the slightly bigger ones).

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Ways to resolve such Issues

1) Consolidation of Land Holdings where possible.
2) Promotion of Cooperatives where land is pooled, cost of inputs is shared (therefore high quality seeds, apt fertilisers etc are affordable) and thus higher profit accrues.
3) Greater growth in labour intensive manufacturing sector to reduce the pressure on agricultural land.
4) Promotion of high value crops like Organic Farming which is labour intensive therefore generates greater profit in small landholdings.
5) Alternate income sources from non farm activities like Handicrafts or Animal Husbandry.
6) Special government schemes to provide credit and assistance of other types to sharecrop crofters, land tenants and female led households.
7) Value addition through Food Processing.
8) Infrastructural support like Irrigation, access to Mandis, Warehouses, Cold Storage etc.
9) Passing of reforms in Agriculture like the Model APMC act or Model Contract Farming law.

Thus, a great deal of thought needs to be put into interpreting the true state of the sector, its problems and then the solutions.

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2) Growing indebtedness leading to farmer suicides → Small landholdings (no collateral) force informal means of credit. Less revenue is generated leading to a vicious cycle of debt trap.

3) Low Productivity → Small landholdings means capital intensive methods like mechanization Requisite fertilisers and pesticides; ~~machinery~~; High yield variety seeds etc. are unviable.

4) Feminisation of Agriculture → Distress migration ~~has to~~ of males to urban areas has forced women to take up operational control but they lack formal land title so cannot access formal credit or even certain government schemes.

5) Soil degradation and ~~and~~ fertility decline → Intensive ~~and~~ farming done unscientifically to derive greatest revenue from small holdings.

Thus, many of the problems have their genesis in the nature of farming and landholdings in India.

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